

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.	393
Leading Articles:—	
Navigation of the Inland Waters and Impracticable Regulations	394
The Foreign Office and the Suppression of Piracy on the West River	395
Proposed New Soldiers and Sailors' Home	395
The New Post Office	395
General Black on the Reform of the Chinese Army	396
The Indian Famine	396
The Transvaal War	396
Colonial Assistance in Times of War	396
German Opinion on the Transvaal Difficulty	397
Supreme Court	397
H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia in Hongkong	397
Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce	397
An Interview with Kang Yn-wei the Reform Leader	398
Performance of "The Magistrate" by the A.D.C.	398
A Military View of the Position in Natal	399
Volunteers for the Transvaal	399
Suicide of Mr. A. Macmillan, Tokyo	399
Inquests	399
Hongkong Sanitary Board	400
The Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited	401
The Royal Hongkong Golf Club	401
Hongkong Rifle Association	401
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club	401
Cricket	402
Football	402
Football Notes	402
The Inter-Port Polo Match at Shanghai	403
Correspondence	403
A Rising in Kweichow	404
Great Fire at Vladivostok	404
A Lekin Station in the Shanghai Settlement	404
Riot by Railway Workers at Newchwang	404
Hongkong and Port News	405
Commercial	406
Shipping	407

BIRTH.

On the 3rd November, 1899, at Craigellachie, Fochow, China, the wife of Mr. L. M. F. GRANT, of a daughter. Home papers please copy.

MARRIAGES.

At 4-1 Saints' Church, Kobe, on the 26th October, by the Rev. G. C. Gardner, M.A., Rev. GEORGE HENRY DAVIES, M.A. (Chaplain of All Saints' Church) to MARION, eldest daughter of J. ELLERTON, Esq., of Kobe.

At the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 30th October, 1899, by the Rev. H. C. Holmes, M.A., ISABELLA, daughter of James A. OGILVY, of Montreal, Canada, to PERCY C. LESLIE, M.D., of Chu Wonz, Honan, China.

At the Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 30th October, 1899, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., JAMES H. ARNOTT to HELEN THOMSON, daughter of the late George H. STON, Edinburgh, Scotland.

DEATHS.

At Tsukiji, Tokyo, on the 27th October, ARCHIBALD F. MACNAB, aged 60 years.

On Friday, the 27th October, 1899, at No. 12, Hankow Road, CHARLES OVEBECK, of Messrs. Overbeck & Co., aged 58 years.

Suddenly, at the Government Civil Hospital, ERNEST WILLIAM FINNER HATHERLY, eldest and dearest loved son of William and Fanny HATHERLY, in his 10th year.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 6th October arrived, per M. M. steamer Yarra, on the 4th November (29 days); and the English mail of the 13th October arrived, per P. & O. steamer Clyde, on the 10th November (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

A branch of the German Navy League has been started at Tientsin.

Mr. Joseph Walton, M.P., telegraphed from Chungking to Hankow on the 27th October that he had reached Chungking in eighteen days.

The Germans in Tientsin have started a Volunteer Corps. It intends to maintain the most friendly relations with the British Volunteers.

The inter-port cricket match between Yokohama and Kobe, played at the former port, resulted in a win for the home team by one wicket.

It is stated on good authority that the Japanese are making large purchases of smokeless coal at Singapore and the ports to the eastward of the Straits.—N. C. Daily News.

An Order-in-Council is published in the Gazette extending the operation of the copyright laws to the Empire of Japan, which has notified its accession to the Berne Convention.

The news of Commander Egerton's death at Ladysmith has been received with sincere regret by his many friends and acquaintances in the Far East and by the whole of the British community.

Dr Knappe, Consul-General for Germany at Shanghai accompanied by his family, left for home in the N. D. L. steamer Bayern. He is granted a year's furlough and has been relieved by Mr. Schnitzler, Vice Consul.

News have been received by wire that Mr. Little's steamer Leechuen, which reached Chungking from Ichang on the 28th of October with Mr. Joseph Walton, M.P., and Captain Plant, returned safely with them to Ichang on 1st November.—N. C. Daily News.

A dispatch from Tientsin reports that the head office of the proposed Tientsin-Chinkiang Railway has been established at Chentingfu, Chihli province, and that a Taotai named Chang Lien-fen has been appointed Commissioner at Chenting.—N. C. Daily News.

With regard to Japan's application for permission to send military attachés to view the campaign in South Africa, the British Government is reported to have replied that the campaign will probably be over before the Japanese attachés could arrive. Let us hope that it may be so.

The Singapore Free Press of the 27th October says:—We regret to hear that Lieut. Monro, R.E., received a telegram from his relatives yesterday morning announcing the death of his brother, Lieut. Charles Gordon Monro, of the 2nd Battalion Gordon Highlanders, killed at the recent action at Elandslaagte, Natal.

The Nagasaki Press says the N.D.L. steamer Hohenzollern, has been purchased by the U.S. Government as a transport and that she will proceed from Hongkong to Manila, where her flag will be changed. The U.S. authorities are also reported to have chartered the Russian steamer Dalny Vostok (formerly the P. & O. Brindisi), which is to be used as a transport.

Colonel E. G. Barrow, formerly of the Hongkong Regiment, Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, has been appointed to succeed Colonel Vonsden as Colonel on the Staff commanding the Kohat-Kurram force.

The Japanese Foreign Office is said to have been notified by the Russian Minister that M. Alexieff, the Financial Commissioner in the Russian Legation (for a while Financial Adviser to Korea), who has been at home on leave of absence, has returned to his office.

The Nagasaki Press of the 1st November says:—We are sorry to hear of the death of Paymaster Hoffmann, of H.I.G.M. cruiser Irane, now in port, which occurred yesterday in St Bernhard's Hospital. Deceased was in his thirty-third year and had been ill a few days only. A funeral service will be held this morning at 10 o'clock by the Rev. Mr. Fuller in the chapel at Deshima, after which the body will be taken to Urakami for interment.

Mr. Pritchard Morgan, M.P., left Shanghai on the 4th inst. with Dr. Jack, the Queensland geologist, and staff, to visit the very valuable concession which he has obtained in Korea, and he will subsequently go on to Peking. We (N. C. Daily News) may mention that his elder daughter and her husband, Count Eric Piper, have been assisting to entertain the German Emperor at Count Piper's family seat at Snogholme in Sweden, where his Majesty shot 24 stags in one morning. The Emperor conferred the Red Eagle on Count Piper, and in a conversation with the Countess assured her that he was most anxious that his subjects and the British should co-operate in China.

The harbour of Tsintau, says the Ostasiatische Lloyd in its last issue, has at present an animated appearance. Besides the men-of-war there are in port two large steamers of the Hamburg American line, the Andalusia and Suevia, with cargoes of building material, railway material, and general. There are also two steamers under the Russian and Japanese flags respectively. Besides these there is a large fleet of junks. The wish is frequently expressed in the colony that one of the great steamship lines, the Norddeutscher Lloyd or Hamburger Packetfahrt, would call regularly at Tsintau, say once every three months. Such an arrangement would be attended with many advantages and much convenience to merchants and all other sections of the community.

At Shanghai on the 30th October, a parade of all the available men of the Police force, including the mounted men, about 460 strong, was held at the Race Course for the inspection of H.R.H. Prince Henry. The Royal party arrived at the course shortly after 9.30 a.m. and was received by Captains Pattison and McKenzie and Messrs. F. Anderson and E. A. Hewett, members of the Council. After the customary salute Prince Henry inspected the men, asking questions of several who bore medals on their breasts. A squad of well-trained Chinese police then performed several evolutions which the Prince watched with seeming interest. At the conclusion of the inspection H.R.H. said that he was highly pleased with the smart appearances of the Police force, and thanked Captain Pattison for having given him an opportunity to inspect the force. The Prince also spoke of the discipline of the force and said that he had had personal experience of it.—Mercury.

NAVIGATION OF THE INLAND WATERS AND IMPRACTIC- ABLE REGULATIONS.

(Daily Press, 4th November.)

The Transvaal question is one doubtless of vast importance to the British Empire, but it by no means follows that others, also of importance, should be allowed to lapse. Our statesmen should be and must be equal to the effort of attending to both the Transvaal and the problem which they are called upon to face in the Far East. Popular excitement may for a time enable them to disregard affairs out here with safety, and popular ignorance of Chinese affairs may also enable them to stave off by ambiguous phrases the explanation that will one day be demanded from them by the country as to the manner in which they have fulfilled their promises. But day by day a stronger light is being thrown on Far Eastern affairs and the public are beginning to realize that what they have hitherto been content to regard merely as a trick of the wily Celestial, not to be taken too seriously, is in reality one of deep and vital importance to the trade and the great working masses of England, and with this knowledge will come enquiry. It will be well for those in whose hands the power is entrusted that they should be in a position to stand and even to court such an enquiry. Mr. BRODRICK expected great things from the opening of Nanning. Lord CURZON, when Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, informed us that British goods would be carried in British ships to every river-side town in China. Both of these utterances were made by responsible officials occupying a prominent position in the Government, and yet we are still waiting to see the opening of Nanning and the Inland Waters of China take place. Whether when Nanning is opened the great things expected will take place it is not our purpose to discuss. The point is that certain things have been promised by the Chinese Government and up to date no attempt has been made to fulfil the promises, nor has any attempt been made by our Government to force the Chinese to fulfil them. Such evasions have been so frequent that one more or less need not be a cause for surprise, nor should we attach much importance to it were it not that in this case there is a distinction deserving of the grave attention of those interested in the future development of this great Empire. The distinction is this. Hitherto our interests, and the best interests of the Chinese themselves, were opposed by the native officials, but by the native officials only. Since, however, the Inland Waters concession was forced upon China the foreign staff in her employ have assumed a dangerously antagonistic attitude towards the commercial interests of England and with her of the world at large. This is far more apparent in the South than in the North, and the reason is plain. An anomalous state of things has been allowed to grow up in the province of Kwangtung. Since the introduction of steam on the waters of that province a large steam traffic has sprung into existence over which the Customs pretend to keep some control, but which is in reality controlled by the provincial officials. When the Inland Waters were declared to be open to foreign and native steamers the Customs found themselves in the position of having to assume direct control over the whole of this traffic, and consequently of coming into conflict with the provincial officials, whose squeezes would be threatened, or to differentiate against the foreign vessel. They chose the latter course, and we note it with regret. It may be, and

we willingly believe that it is, the wish of the Customs to treat all alike, if they had the power, but it is perhaps too much to expect from the individual official that he should oppose himself to the known and expressed opinion of his chief, backed as that opinion is by the support of the representative of the Power that first brought the concession forward and whose chief interest it is to see it carried out. Our readers have only to refer back to the correspondence published last month on this subject to understand our meaning. Sir ROBERT HART's despatch then printed was written with an aim and object, and that was to "bluff" Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE, actuated thereto by a pretty shrewd guess that that gentleman would have a very superficial knowledge of the subject; and, as we then said, Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE was caught by the chaff. To most persons the notes of warning sounded by such old and tried hands as MANSFIELD and Hoste, that there were larger issues at stake than appeared on the surface, would have been sufficient to convince them that this was a matter which would need careful investigation. Some such idea does appear to have struck Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE, as he decided to refer the whole matter to Lord SALISBURY, but as he at the same time expressed it as his personal opinion that Sir ROBERT HART's views were the correct ones it behoves us to examine that opinion most carefully.

Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE has, like other people, a perfect right to a personal opinion, but when he expresses it in a public manner and on public matters we are compelled to look closely into the grounds on which that opinion is based, to criticize those grounds, and possibly to confute them, instead of deliberately accepting a dictum which renders valueless one of the most far reaching and important concessions ever wrung from China. We will take then his letter of the 25th of August printed in the correspondence of the Chamber of Commerce. In this he states: "I am personally of opinion that 'the ruling of the I.M. Customs as laid down 'in Sir ROBERT HART's letter to me of May '12th is a fair one, in view of the original 'concession, which was to allow foreign 'merchants to use steam vessels for conveyance of goods in the interior in places 'where they have hitherto been allowed to 'use native boats. . . . It appears to me 'that you are anxious to obtain a share of 'the native carrying trade of the interior, 'which trade was not formerly carried on 'by foreigners using native boats. If this 'can be done under the existing regulations 'well and good; these Regulations ought 'not, however, to be strained to attain this 'object.' It would be interesting if Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE had told us at the same time what his interpretation of the native carrying trade of the interior is! For instance, what does he call the Wuhu to Canton rice trade? Is that the native carrying trade of the interior, or is it not? The thousands of tons of goods which are yearly carried up and down the Yangtze, which goods never leave China, were never intended to leave China, and are solely consumed by the Chinese themselves, are they the native carrying trade of the interior? If so, then the foreign steamers have already a share in it. The fact is Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE's expression is meaningless. He talks as if there were two distinct trades, the one what he calls the native carrying trade of the interior, and the other some other kind; what that kind is he does not tell us. He also apparently labours under the delusion that there is some trade which is carried on by foreigners using native boats. It is not necessary

to stop to controvert this fallacy now, but as he tells us by inference that it is in such a trade that steamers can now be employed under the Inland Waters concession we will look into the question and see how far his statement is borne out by facts. A foreigner has the right to take goods into or to bring goods or produce out of China either by paying taxation *en route* or committing it for a lump sum. We presume Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE will concede that in doing so he has the right to employ native boats to carry the cargo in. This, then, is plainly a case where the foreigner used native boats and hence should, according to Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE's own showing, be allowed to use steam. That he cannot under existing regulations do this, or at least, to be quite correct, except under such conditions as to make it certain that he will not do it, is patent to everyone familiar with the recent action of the Customs authorities. We will even go further and take the question on its lowest possible grounds and, adopting the form of illustration used by the Shipping Companies in their memorandum, will suppose for the sake of argument fifty bales of Manchester goods imported by a foreign firm into Canton. This is no question of the carriage of native produce, but a plain *bona fide* importation of foreign goods which the importers wish to be sent inland as follows: Ten bales are destined for Kumchuk, a "port of call" on the West River, ten for Dosing, an inland place, ten for Wuchow, a treaty port, and the balance for some place in Yunnan. The firm in question can put the whole lot into one junk, cover them by a transit pass or pay taxation *en route*, whichever is most convenient, and land them at the places mentioned in their order as the junk makes its way up the West River. Can they do so with a steamer? The answer is distinctly and decidedly no. The Customs would decide as follows: The whole fifty bales having paid import duty at Canton, the ten destined for Kumchuk can either be sent there under transit pass or exemption certificate; they can be carried in an inter-treaty port steamer only, inland water steamers not being allowed to touch at ports of call. The ten destined for Dosing, situated between the treaty ports of Samshui and Wuchow, can go to either Wuchow or Samshui under exemption certificate and there take out a transit pass; from there they can go to Dosing in an inland water steamer. If the transit pass is taken out in Canton they can't be shipped in any steamer at all! Not in an inter-port vessel, because inter-port vessels are not allowed to carry transit pass goods from one treaty port to another. Not in an inland steamer, because the steamer herself is not allowed to pass the next treaty port. The ten bales for Wuchow and the balance of twenty for Yunnan will have to go to Wuchow in an inter-treaty port steamer. Those for Yunnan there obtain their transit pass and can go by an inland steamer to their destination. That is until Nanning is opened; after that the Samshui-Wuchow farce is enacted over again. Three steamers and two agents will be the least that will be required to get those goods to their destination, and this on a trade which Mr. BAX-IRONSIDE tells the Shipping Companies they can engage in, but must not strain the regulations to include any other. The public in the Far East have already expressed their opinion in no uncertain voice as to which side is attempting to put a strained construction on the rules, and, unless we mistake, the time is fast coming when the public at home will express their opinion in a way which no statesman or Minister will care to either trifle with or resist.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND THE SUPPRESSION OF PIRACY ON THE WEST RIVER.

(Daily Press, 9th November.)

At the last meeting of the Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held on the 2nd inst., the Chairman read a letter from the Government, just received, enclosing copy of a despatch received by H.E. the Governor annexing a letter from the Foreign to the Colonial Office, in which it was stated that the Admiralty had ordered the *Tweed* to patrol the West River with the *Sandpiper*, and that, if further assistance were required for the protection of British interests, a torpedo boat would be sent as tender to the *Tweed*. It is satisfactory to find that the Foreign Office recognises the necessities of the case, though in a qualified kind of way only, and the measures taken are also satisfactory so far as they go. It will be noted that a torpedo boat is to be added to the *Tweed* and *Sandpiper* "if further assistance be required for the protection of British interests." What interpretation is to be placed on the phrase "British interests" in this connection? Are we to understand that the Foreign Office looks only to the protection of property under the British flag and that piracy by which British ships are not directly affected is to be ignored? If so the position is disappointing. The statement that if further assistance is required for the protection of British interests a torpedo boat will be sent conveys a much more limited meaning, however, than would a more general statement to the effect that if further assistance is required for the extirpation of piracy such assistance will be sent. British interests are affected more by the indirect influences of the existing lawlessness than by the direct danger of outrage upon the British flag. The latter is a real danger and one to be guarded against, but meanwhile trade suffers every day by the interference of the pirates with the native traffic and the consequent interruption of supplies and of the usual means of distribution. Action is necessary therefore not only for the protection of ships and cargoes under the British flag but also for the suppression of piracy in general.

It is no doubt the duty of the Chinese Government to suppress piracy in Chinese waters, and we trust the duty will be strongly impressed upon that Government by the Foreign Ministers, and more especially by the British Minister. In the meantime, however, with the *Tweed* and *Sandpiper* on the river for the purpose of protecting British interests, it would be refreshing to hear of their catching a few pirates, even though the pirates may not have directly attacked British property. But they are not very likely to catch the pirates in *flagrante delicto*; if they want them they will have to look for them. In this connection the question suggests itself whether the small flotilla is provided with an efficient intelligence department. When piracy on the coast was wiped out by the British gunboats officers of the Hongkong Government were appointed to assist the Naval authorities by obtaining from native sources information as to the whereabouts and intended movements of the pirates. The men-of-war were thus enabled to search out the pirate junks and effectually dispose of them. Something of the same kind will have to be arranged in connection with the West River flotilla if it is to be really successful in sweeping the waters of the pests that now prey upon the trade. If the operations of the gun-

boats be confined to cruising up and down the river, unassisted by anything in the nature of a detective service, they will exercise only a moral effect—an effect of considerable value, it is true, as calculated to restrain the pirates from molesting British vessels, but falling considerably short of what British merchants would like to see, namely, the protection of the native trade, with which the interests of foreign trade, both in the collection of exports and the distribution of imports, are so closely allied.

PROPOSED NEW SOLDIERS AND SAILORS' HOME.

(Daily Press, 6th November.)

Much interest has been excited by the recently published correspondence relating to the proposed New Soldiers and Sailors' Home, Arsenal Street. Of the readiness of the community to help forward any well directed movement designed to promote the welfare of our soldiers and sailors the generous offer made by our correspondent "D. J." in another column may be taken as a fair criterion. There is, however, a natural desire on the part of the public to be informed, not only of the aim of the proposed new institution, but also of the circumstances of existing institutions working in the same field, and of the requirements of the case. Information on the first point is given in the Rev. C. BONE's letter; the present article is intended to give some information on the second point; and as to the third point the public will be able to form its own opinion, and will, we trust, respond in a liberal spirit to Mr. BONE's appeal, on the understanding, however, that they are subscribing to what we think might be more appropriately called a Temperance Institute than a Soldiers and Sailors' Home. The men of Her Majesty's fleet, as regards opportunities of rational amusement, are already provided for in the Royal Naval Seamen's Club, an admirably managed institution under official supervision. The soldiers also have their own recreation rooms, but these rooms are scattered about in different barracks, and each being run on a small scale they do not reach the standard that might be looked for in a larger institute organised to meet the wants of the whole garrison. The men, too, like to get away from their own barracks at times. For the soldiers, therefore, an Institute of some kind is required. General GASCOIGNE has taken great interest in this question and thinking the want might be met by the existing Soldiers and Sailors' Institute he gave to that institution the temporary use of block G, opposite Fletcher Street, and, on conditions, offered it substantial assistance in its finances. The existing Soldiers and Sailors' Institute, as most of our readers are probably aware, was established some years ago on strictly temperance principles by a small band of energetic workers in the cause, and it has led a useful existence under considerable difficulties, being accommodated until recently in more or less unsuitable rooms which had from time to time to be changed. When General GASCOIGNE came to the rescue there seemed a prospect of the institution being placed on a firm basis. But an insuperable difficulty arose on a question of principle. General GASCOIGNE wished to cater not only for the teetotal section, but for the whole garrison, and he proposed to have a bar where men who wished it could obtain a glass of beer, the bar being under strict supervision and not to be regarded as a source of profit. To this

the committee objected. The General offered to meet them by letting them have certain of the rooms, which should be looked upon as temperance rooms, but the committee said it would be against their principles to enter any building in which alcoholic liquor was sold. The upshot is that a Soldiers' Club is to be started. The General, we understand, intends to apply to the War Office to sanction the permanent use of block G for the purpose. That block is immediately opposite the end of Fletcher Street, and at the other end of that street it is intended to have a boat-house in connection with the club. Every reasonable convenience and all the usual forms of recreation will be supplied in the club, which will be conducted on the lines of any ordinary well regulated club and not as a charity institution. It is expected that the institution will pay its own way, but should there be any deficit it is already provided for and no appeal will be made to the public. The General's position on the liquor question will be readily understood. The teetotal members of the garrison are, generally speaking, good conduct men and seldom get into trouble. What is desired is to provide a place of rational recreation which can be resorted to not only by teetotals but also by the man who enjoys his glass of beer and who, for want of any better place to go to, may, under the existing conditions, be driven to frequent undesirable drinking saloons and there be led into excess. With the men of the fleet provided for, in the matter of recreation, by the Royal Naval Seamen's Club, and the soldiers by the proposed Soldiers' Club, the Soldiers and Sailors' Home proposed by Mr. BONE does not seem to be an urgent necessity. No doubt, however, there is room for an institution where temperance and evangelistic work may be carried on, not only amongst the members of the fleet and garrison but also the mercantile marine and any other classes that can be reached by such influences. If Mr. BONE redrafts his appeal, basing it on these grounds, no doubt it will meet with a liberal response.

THE NEW POST OFFICE.

(Daily Press, 7th November.)

From the minutes of the last meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Committee it will be seen that that body, on a consideration of the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD's letter, published some time ago, has declined to commit itself on the question of the site of the new Post Office. The Committee is of opinion that the present building is inadequate, and it urges the Government "to proceed immediately with the erection of a new Post Office," but expresses no opinion as to the merits of the rival sites. One important element in the case seems to have been overlooked, however. The chief reason for desiring a New Post Office is that the present building is, as the Chamber says in its resolution, "inadequate for the requirements of the port." Incidentally a new building would give us an architectural adornment of the town, at least it is to be hoped so, but in the present state of the colony's finances no one would think of advocating the erection of a new building on that ground alone. Attention must be confined, therefore, to the question of meeting the requirements of the port. If the final decision be that the Post Office is to be retained on its present site with the addition of the adjoining site, on which the Supreme Court-house stands, the question suggests itself whether a new building would be necessary. The present building together with the Supreme Court building

would no longer be "inadequate for the requirements of the port" so far as accommodation is concerned. Why then go to the expense of pulling down buildings that are adequate and erecting a new one?

GENERAL BLACK ON THE REFORM OF THE CHINESE ARMY.

(Daily Press, 7th November.)

When General BLACK speaks he always has something interesting to say, and his speech at the China Association dinner to Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD was no exception to the rule. The gallant General responded to the toast of the Army, and in the course of his remarks said he had often regretted that we had not begun long ago to train John Chinaman to arms. If in the early sixties, he continued, we had raised two or three battalions they might by this time have become the nucleus of an army, and he asserted, without fear of contradiction, that a well disciplined army was the school of national life; it was the only power that could regenerate China and infuse into that nerveless and turbid mass some of the military virtues and patriotic spirit which was so lacking and without which, when nations were suffering from land hunger, no State could ensure its independence. General BLACK does not tell us whether he thinks the battalions should have been raised on Chinese account or whether he thinks the experiment now being tried at Weihaiwei should have been entered upon in Hongkong at the period he mentions. We infer, however, that the latter was the idea he had in his mind. No doubt the existence of a few British Chinese battalions in Hongkong or Weihaiwei would have some influence, by example, in improving Chinese ideas of military organisation and discipline. Whether it is desirable that we should have Chinese Regiments in the British army is another question, but the British authorities seem now to be almost unanimous in the opinion that the Chinaman can by training be made a good soldier. General BLACK's remark that a well disciplined army is the only power that can regenerate China goes to support Lord CHARLES BERESFORD's view that reform in China must commence with the army. There are many, ourselves amongst the number, who have held that reform should commence with the finances, and it is certain that no thoroughly satisfactory reform of the army can take place unless the men are paid regularly and in full and the squeeze system entirely done away with. The two views, however, are not irreconcilable. The correct procedure would no doubt be to let the two reforms go hand in hand. An efficient army would enable the Government to enforce its financial decrees, and reform of the finance would provide the wherewithal to maintain the army.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.

(Daily Press, 7th November.)

Reuter's telegrams have of late been so monopolised with war news that there has apparently been no opportunity of informing us of the serious scarcity of food to which our Indian fellow subjects are beginning to be subjected. There was a general impression that the threatened famine was going to be much less serious than was at one time feared and that in fact the distress was not likely to become acute over any very wide areas. News received by the last mail, however, shows that the worst fears are being realised. Already there are over a quarter of a million of people under

relief and we are told that in the Central Provinces the position is going from bad to worse. The leave of officers whose services are liable to be called into requisition in connection with relief work has been stopped and the cold weather military movements have been cancelled owing to the scarcity of fodder, from which it must be inferred that the Government takes a serious view of the position.

It is not unlikely, therefore, that before the winter is over we may be called upon to contribute to an Indian famine fund. And that is not the only heavy appeal that is likely to be made to the community. A fund has been opened by the Lord Mayor of London for the relief of the Transvaal refugees. Perhaps it may not be necessary to ask for colonial help in that matter, for if the war proves to be of short duration the refugees will soon be able to go back to their former positions, and the interval may be tided over with their own resources and the assistance that may be forthcoming locally and from London. It would not be surprising however, if the case necessitated a general appeal to the Empire. There is also another object to which all will wish to contribute, namely, the fund that will have to be raised for our wounded soldiers and the families of those who lose their lives in the campaign. It may perhaps seem a little premature to mention these matters at the present moment, but in matters of charity as well as in business affairs it is well to look a little ahead and to be prepared for impending demands.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR.

(Daily Press, 8th October.)

There is a grim humour about the telegram published to-day with its news of the annexation of the Upper Tugela district of Natal to the Orange Free State and the issue of letters of marque by the Transvaal. Light begins to be shed now upon the reason for the Naval activity at home and the convoying of the troopers by cruisers. The Government had presumably received information, or had anticipated for itself, this move of the enemy. The Upper Tugela District includes Colenso, Ladysmith, and the territory to the North, the river Tugela running eastward across Natal and falling into the Indian Ocean some distance north of Durban. It appears to be part of the Boer plan to try to reach the coast, thus cutting Zululand off from Natal, securing a seaboard, and opening up a means of obtaining supplies from outside sources. It is conceivable also that they may have received offers of assistance from some naval Power conditional upon their obtaining a seaboard. Without a port, too, the issue of letters of marque would not have much practical effect, as there would be no place to which prizes could be safely taken to be disposed of, for neutral Powers could not admit them to their ports without sacrificing their neutrality and inviting reprisals. Even with a seaboard the Boers could not do much damage on the water, as the coast would be closely blockaded. The precautions taken by the Admiralty and the fact that the British men-of-war are closely watching the shipping at the Canaries show, however, that the Government does not regard the danger of privateering that can be lightly set aside, absurd as it as one seems that a petty little inland state should enter on such a form of hostilities. Assuming that privateers are actually fitted out it may, we think, be taken for granted that they will be treated as pirates when caught and will have short shrift.

The development of the Boer plans shows that they must have been determined upon long ago and held in readiness to be put into execution at the first moment that might be deemed opportune. It is becoming increasingly evident that Mr. KRUGER never desired a peaceful settlement of the dispute, but that, as Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said in the House of Commons, the oligarchy at Pretoria, abetted by President STEYN, has consistently endeavoured to undermine our paramountcy. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said he had striven to maintain peace with the utmost patience, but finally came to the conclusion from events and from the speeches of President KRUGER that war had always been inevitable. Constant armaments, he continued, had made the Transvaal by far the strongest power in South Africa and he believed the Empire had just escaped the greatest danger to which it had ever been exposed. The course of events is proving the correctness of that view. The military strength of the Transvaal is found to be far beyond what even outside estimates had placed it at, and there can be little doubt that if the country had been allowed continue in the course it was pursuing it would, the moment Great Britain was engaged in a dispute with any other Power, have seized the opportunity to make an attempt to completely overthrow British sovereignty in South Africa.

COLONIAL ASSISTANCE IN TIMES OF WAR.

(Daily Press, 6th November.)

The anxieties of those responsible for the government of the Empire go far beyond the reach of the public eye. Reading his newspaper, with its news of the Transvaal war, the ordinary reader is apt to forget what the British Minister never can forget, that hardly less cause for vigilance in British interests exists in the affairs of Northern Africa, Asia Minor, the Persian Gulf, and China. There rival jealousies are ever on the alert to take the fullest advantage of our seeming preoccupation in any one corner of our widely scattered Empire. To-day we are concentrating 40,000 or 50,000 British troops drawn from home and Indian quarters upon South African territory. That concentration has its obvious perils, and may suggest to our rivals an opportunity for which they only await the safe moment. Thanks to our mastery of the seas, and the fact that the difficulties which we are now facing in South Africa leave our navy unhampered in the defence of British interests elsewhere, we have no cause, as yet, for any pressing anxiety. But it is worth remembering that the years have brought a great change in another vital respect, and brought also a great opportunity, if British statesmen did but see it and seize it. The Empire is no longer a gossamer net of sentiment. The moment of peril to British interests in South Africa has brought offers of immediate and substantial military help from Canada, Australia, and elsewhere—from those homes of the British race where peace and prosperity have for basis the vital principle of those equal rights between white men of whatever race to secure which England is prepared to draw her sword, as she now is doing in South Africa.

These offers have been received with keen gratification in the mother-land, but also with something of a lofty indulgence in the whim of a good child; it is not admitted that this colonial help is really needed or can be of great help in the task before us. But why? Will anyone say that Mister ATKINS is so vastly superior in such unconventional war-

fare as must be encountered in South Africa to the trained Canadian soldier who tracked down the fighting half-breed in the unpeopled wilds of the Canadian North-West, or to the Australian accustomed to the arduous life of the bush? Those who know the stuff of which these Canadians and Australians are made, and know also what has to be faced in South Africa, will admit no such superiority, and will tell you that the British Ministry would go far to ensure the success of whatever operations may be before us in South Africa by gladly accepting the services of as many strong regiments as Canada and our other Colonies can offer us, and indeed are eager to place at our disposal. Fighting thus side by side in the cause of equal British rights, under British officers and under the British flag, the Canadian, South African, and Australian would learn as they have never learnt yet the comradeship of British citizenship. All that is real and worth having in Imperial Federation would be achieved and the world would see and profit by the moral. The cause is theirs as well as ours, for without equal rights between the white races the Empire is not worth a decade's purchase.

British Ministers should not throw lightly aside these Colonial offers of help. A German paper recently spoke the mind of Anglophobes Europe over when it said that the moment to embarrass England, to take revenge for Fashoda, to press forward in the Persian Gulf, in China, and wherever else British interests are in jeopardy, will be when the pick of the British Army is shut up in the African Continent. Why should any such large proportion of our home Army be shut up? The Colonies at least see no reason for it.

GERMAN OPINION ON THE TRANSVAAL QUESTION.

Daily Press, 6th November.)

Some irritation appears to have been occasioned by expressions made use of by our German fellow residents in respect of the recent British reverses in the Transvaal. In this connection attention may be directed to an article in the last issue of the *Asiatische Lloyd* entitled "Sympathy and Antipathy in Politics," the general purport of which is that sympathy and antipathy should find no place in politics, and that Germany, whatever her feelings may be, is not called upon in any way to interfere in the South African business. Reference is also made to the fact that the present state of the German fleet is not such as to warrant the undertaking of any enterprise in that direction, and it is suggested that the country has for the present enough to do in opening up and developing the markets already secured for its trade. In conclusion our contemporary says:—"We are by no means convinced of the justice of the English claims with regard to the Transvaal and Orange Free State, but we can also understand Great Britain in her own interest aiming at the paramountcy of South Africa." Sometimes, we should say, sympathy and antipathy count for more in politics than our contemporary gives the credit for, but in the present instance it is tolerably certain that there will be no outside interference in the Transvaal affair. It may, however, be taken for granted, we think, that all our German friends entertain a racial and cousinly sympathy for the Boers, whatever their opinion may be as to their policy in entering upon a war in which they are bound to be defeated in the end. The expression of such sympathy in an English colony, or the terms in which the expression is made, becomes simply a question of good manners. Still, this is a free country and our German

friends are welcome to say what they like. They need not be afraid of prosecution for *lese-majesté* or other similar inconveniences to which under analogous circumstances foreigners dwelling in Germany might be subjected. But the great majority of German residents in the colony, though their sympathies may be with the Boers, are too sensible and too well bred, we think, to indulge in any offensive expressions of hostility to Great Britain. Certain "hochs" which were taken by hyper-sensitive English men to be expressive of jubilation at the Ladysmith disaster had nothing more to do with the matter, we believe, than the laughter heard proceeding from the City Hall on Saturday night.

SUPREME COURT.

7th November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. JUSTICE WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

LI KWONG LOONG V. THE ENGINEERS' INSTITUTE.

Li Kwong Loong, of 17, Queen's Road Central, sought to recover from the Institution of Engineers of Hongkong \$378.35 for work done and materials supplied and for goods sold and delivered. Plaintiff also claimed his costs of suit. Defendants admitted owing \$287.85, which sum had been paid into court, leaving \$90.50 in dispute.

Mr. Mounsey (Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton) appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Grist (Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for defendants.

Mr. Mounsey said he had been through a list of particulars with his friend and they had boiled the items in dispute down to 11. The rest he understood, were all admitted, so that the only enquiry would be as regarded these 11 items. Mr. Mounsey proceeded to deal with these items and the extent to which the other side alleged they were overcharged.

Mr. Grist said his clients did not wish to be hard. They might have objected to a very great number of items, but they had not thought it worth while to do so. They had only taken the most glaring instances of overcharging.

Plaintiff then gave evidence as to the nature of the work done by him for defendants. He said that for removing furniture from one building to another he charged defendants \$350, which sum had been paid. The other work was supplying new furniture and repairing old furniture, for which he charged \$428. He had received on account, including the \$350, \$500 altogether, which left a balance, according to his account, of \$378.35 due to him. He considered the items in the particulars to be reasonable charges for the work done.

Mr. Grist cross-examined plaintiff as to the items in dispute.

His Lordship gave judgment (with costs) for \$314.85, which is \$27 above the amount admitted by defendants.

H.R.H. PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA IN HONGKONG.

The *Deutschland* entered the harbour on Monday morning having on board H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia. It is probable that the Prince will be with us until after Christmas. In the meantime the *Deutschland* will go into dock. The Prince will stay at "Yalta," the German Consul's Peak residence. On leaving Hongkong he will call at Bangkok for the purpose of paying his long-deferred visit to the King of Siam.

Telegraphic intelligence has been received that the Royal Welsh Fusilier Polo team won their match against Shanghai by three goals to one.

Two Chinese houses in Chapoo Road, Shanghai, were burnt on the afternoon of the 30th October, and two children lost their lives. It was reported that four children were locked in a room, but as only two bodies were found it was presumed the others managed to get out.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held on Thursday, the 2nd November, 1899, at 3 p.m. Present Messrs. R. M. Gray (Chairman), A. McConachie (Vice-Chairman), A. Haupt, Sir Thomas Jackson, Hon. J. J. Kerwick, Messrs. W. Poate, N. A. Siebs, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous monthly meeting (held 3rd October) were read and confirmed.

QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS.

The Secretary reported the exchange of correspondence on the above subject between the Chamber, the Colonial Government, and the Government of the Straits Settlements, culminating, at length, in the removal by the latter, first of the prohibition on immigration from Hongkong, and subsequently, on the 12th October, in the discontinuance of quarantine restrictions on shipping arriving from Hongkong.

A letter had also been received from the Colonial Secretary, dated 18th October, announcing the removal of quarantine restrictions at Shanghai against Hongkong, Canton, and Macao.

PIRACIES AND DISTURBANCES IN WEST RIVER DISTRICT.

Read letter from Government, dated 10th October, stating that a copy of the Chamber's letter of the 21st September, together with other correspondence on the subject of the disturbed condition of the districts watered by the West River, had been forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Chairman read a letter from the Government, just received, enclosing copy of a despatch received by H.E. the Governor annexing a letter from the Foreign to the Colonial Office, in which it was stated that the Admiralty had ordered the *Tweed* to patrol the West River with the *Sandpiper*, and that, if further assistance were required for the protection of British interests, a torpedo boat would be sent as tender to the *Tweed*.

On the same subject, a letter dated the 12th Sept. had been received from the London Chamber of Commerce, acknowledging receipt of Chamber's telegram of the 10th and letter of 11th August and enclosing copy of correspondence with the Foreign Office thereupon.

A reply to this letter was despatched on the 20th October conveying the thanks of the Committee for the prompt and courteous attention given to the matter by the London Chamber.

THE PROPOSED REDUCTION OF CABLE RATES BETWEEN INDIA AND EUROPE.

Acknowledgment of the receipt of the Chamber's circular letter and resolutions of the 18th August had, the Secretary reported, been received from the London and Adelaide Chambers of Commerce.

TELEGRAPH RATES BETWEEN THE FAR EAST AND EUROPE.

The Secretary reported that the resolutions passed on the above subject at the last meeting were, on the 5th Oct., conveyed under covering letter to the Colonial Secretary with a request that H.E. the Governor would forward copies to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which letter was duly acknowledged on the 11th idem. Copies of the resolutions were also addressed on the same date to the acting Manager in China of the Joint Telegraph Company; and on the 6th idem copies were addressed, with circular covering letter, to the Chambers of commerce at Shanghai, Canton, Amoy, Foochow, Chinkiang, Tientsin, Hiogo, Yokohama, Singapore, Ceylon (Colombo), Rangoon, Madras, Bombay, Bengal (Calcutta), Manila, London, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Hull, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Southampton, Cardiff, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Dublin, Belfast, New York, San Francisco, Seattle, Tacoma, Chicago, Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Hobart, Perth, Auckland, and Dunedin, N.Y. Replies in acknowledgment had been received from the Amoy, Foochow, Singapore, and Shanghai Chambers.

THE NEW OFFICIAL TELEGRAPH CODE VOCABULARY.

Read letter from Mr. J. M. Root, Acting Manager, Joint Telegraph Companies, in reply

to inquiries regarding the numbering of words in the official vocabulary, stating that it is very clear that it has been decided to omit the numbers, and forwarding extracts from the circular giving the reasons therefor.

The Chamber had been asked by the Sydney Chamber to join in a protest against this omission of the numbers, and some discussion took place on this proposal, but it was decided that as the decision in regard to the omission of the numbers was evidently final, it would be useless to move in the matter.

THE PROJECTED NEW POST OFFICE.

The letter addressed on the 18th October to the Chamber by the Hon. T. H. Whitehead advocating the early erection of the new Post Office, and urging adoption of the site on the Praya next to the Hongkong Club, was then considered.

After considerable discussion,

It was proposed by Sir Thomas Jackson—"That the Committee of this Chamber urge the Government to proceed immediately with the erection of a new Post Office, the present building being inadequate for the requirements of the port. At the same time they urge reorganisation of the staff on a more liberal scale than that now existing."

This was seconded by the Hon. J. J. Keswick, and carried unanimously.

It was then decided to forward a copy of the resolution to the Colonial Secretary for the information of His Excellency the Governor.

TOWNSVILLE HARBOUR IMPROVEMENTS.

Read letter from the Chairman of the Townsville, (Queensland) Harbour Board, enclosing bill of lading for a framed group of photographs offered for the Chamber's acceptance.

The Secretary reported that the photos. had arrived and had been hung up in the Chamber Room.

It was resolved to reply and thank the Townsville Harbour Board for the gift.

REUTER'S POLITICAL TELEGRAMS.

Read letter from Reuter's Agent, dated 28th October, stating that he had been advised by telegraph that from date the number of words supplied to the Chamber will be increased by 1,000 words, per month, an increase to some extent rendered possible by the recent increase made by the Chamber in their subscription.

This concession was regarded with much satisfaction by the Committee.

This concluded the business.

AN INTERVIEW WITH KANG YU-WEI, THE REFORM LEADER.

Having been asked to interview the reform leader now in Hongkong I set to work to arrange for an audience. Knowing that Chinese are as a rule early risers, I called at the house he is occupying at 9.30 a.m. After ringing vigorously at the bell a number of times without bringing anyone to the door I looked in at a lower window and saw a young Chinaman reclining in a chair, whom I asked to intimate to the attendants that I sought an interview with Kang Yu-wei. He at first appeared not to understand me, but shortly afterwards the door was opened, and on my entering I found a Sikh policeman at the back of the door, who had a revolver in his belt and was evidently on guard there.

Some Chinese gentlemen now came down to see what I wanted, and on my stating that I desired to see Kang Yu-wei informed me that he had not yet got up. They asked very particularly who I was and on whose behalf I sought the interview, and finding that the visit was of a friendly nature told me that Kang Yu-wei would receive me at noon if I called again then. The Sikh policeman who was on guard and who spoke a little English told me that he would not be on duty when I returned, so I asked him to inform his relief that I should call then and kindly to let me in, as I came on a friendly visit.

Returning at noon I had no difficulty in gaining entry, and noted that there was another Sikh constable on guard. I was ushered upstairs, where I was met by Kang Yu-wei, who had a number of Chinese gentlemen around him, who I subsequently ascertained, were some of his former pupils. He came forward in a frank manner and holding out his hand, said in good English, "How do you do?"

I was surprised to hear him speak English so well and asked if he could converse in English, but he replied that he spoke very little, so the conversation had to be carried on with the aid of two interpreters, one a Chinese gentleman from Vancouver and the other a local Chinese Gentleman who had been asked to give his services for the interview.

Kang Yu-wei was reserved as to what his reasons were for returning from Canada and as to what his future movements would be, but he admitted that he feared that he would not be able to remain in the colony but must seek a domicile elsewhere.

Having acquainted him with the feeling amongst the Chinese Christian community that he had shown himself inimical to them, notwithstanding the fact that he had received the greatest hospitality from the missionaries and the Chinese converts everywhere he had been, and that, further, he was charged with having devoted \$10,000 of the funds he had raised at Vancouver to bribing a Chinese Christian of bad character to proceed to Tientsin and assassinate the Viceroy Juang Lu, I asked him if there were any grounds for such complaints and stated my belief that there must be some misunderstanding in the matter, which I hoped he would clear up, as I could not believe that a man who had run such risks and made such sacrifices on behalf of the reformation of his country could be guilty of such ingratitude or would seek to assassinate his enemies, even though, as was true, they had sought to procure his death by similar means, and that I felt confident that he would be able to give a satisfactory explanation of how this dissension had arisen.

Kang acknowledged that he had received the greatest kindness at the hands of the missionaries and Chinese Christians, mentioning especially the Rev. Timothy Richards, and said that he never could be guilty of such baseness as alleged; he believed that the trouble had arisen through his declining to see some of his many callers through inability to attend to them all, and that those who sought to damage the Reform Movement had set themselves to work to spread false reports with the intention of creating dissensions. Both the gentlemen interpreting, one of whom was a Christian, supported this view, the Christian admitting that he had heard the reports but did not credit them.

After impressing on Kang the desirability of uniting all sections of the Reform Party of every creed and sinking their religious differences so that they could meet together as one body on the platform of reform, and pointing out that inasmuch as unity meant strength none but constitutional and upright methods could hope to succeed in bringing about the reforms they wished for, and hoping that this would be his aim, I was assured by him that he agreed with me in all these points and had always, and would always act on these principles. We then parted, he thanking me for the interest I took in him, his country, and in the furthering of reform.

I left with the impression that this intelligent man, who seemed to have a number of faithful followers, would yet play a leading part in the future of his country.

PERFORMANCE OF "THE MAGISTRATE" BY THE A.D.C.

The Theatre Royal resounded with peals of laughter on Saturday night, when Pinero's farce "The Magistrate" was presented by the A.D.C. The same piece was presented four and a half years ago and was noted then as one of the A.D.C.'s special successes. The success was repeated and in some respects increased on Saturday night last. Several members of the cast were the same as on the former occasion and had the advantage of experience in their respective parts.

The plot is fairly well known, but for the benefit of those who have forgotten it or have not seen the piece we may give the following brief synopsis:—Mrs. Posket, who has a son by a former marriage, has deceived her husband as to her age, and to support the deception has represented her child as five years younger than he really is, making his present age fourteen instead of nineteen. Cis Farrington, the son, is precocious even for nineteen, but is treated as

a child and has a music governess, to whom he makes love. A Colonel Lukyn, an old friend of Mr. Posket's, returns from India and is invited to dinner. Mrs. Posket had also known Colonel Lukyn, who in fact was godfather to Cis and acquainted with his real age. The good lady therefore thinks it necessary to see Colonel Lukyn in advance and secure a promise from him not to mention dates to her husband during the next evening's dinner. She accordingly sets out in the evening with her sister Charlotte under pretence of visiting a sick friend, but in reality to seek Lukyn at his lodgings. Taking advantage of the absence of his mother, Cis Farrington induces his step-father, Mr. Posket, the Magistrate of the Mulberry Street Police Court, to go out for a little enjoyment, and they sup at the Hotel des Princes. In an adjoining room are Colonel Lukyn and Captain Vale, also having supper. Mrs. Posket, not having found the Colonel at his lodgings, follows him to the hotel, and requests a private interview. Captain Vale obligingly steps out on to a balcony, where he is in a short time drenched by a heavy shower. Colonel Lukyn is agitated by the inconvenience and danger to which he has put his friend, for the balcony is not only exposed to the rain, but is also unsafe; and several amusing situations ensue. Captain Vale being at last discovered, a recognition and reconciliation take place between him and Miss Verrinder, whose engagement had only recently been broken off. By this time the hour at which the hotel ought to have been closed has passed. Achille Blond, the proprietor of the Hotel des Princes, bursts into the room with the intelligence that the Police are coming, extinguishes the lights, and entreats the guests to conceal themselves. In the confusion the party in the next room, Mr. Posket and Cis Farrington, find themselves in Colonel Lukyn's room, and Mr. and Mrs. Posket get under one and the same table without discovering each other's identity. At this point the audience became quite convulsed with laughter, and one could hardly conceive any humorous scene more successfully managed. When the police enter the room and discover the guests concealed Mr. Posket and Cis Farrington manage to make their escape through a skylight, but the rest of the party are arrested. Next morning they are brought before Mr. Posket's court, and the Magistrate, distracted with the turn affairs have taken, adopts the words put into his mouth by his clerk, and sentences them all, his wife included, to seven days' imprisonment. The scene in court is not represented but what goes on is conveyed to the audience by the action in the Magistrates' room. Mr. Posket himself is suffering severely from the results of his previous night's experience and after this, the first case of the day, is disposed of, he has to retire from the court, being too ill to continue business. His place on the bench is taken by his brother Magistrate, Mr. Bulamy, who reopens the hotel case and releases the prisoners on remand, to give them the opportunity of showing that they were the guests of Cis Farrington, who, it appeared, had hired a room at the hotel permanently and was therefore entitled to entertain his friends, even after closing hours. The party return to Mr. Posket's residence, explanations are made and Cis Farrington learns his real age and declares his intention of marrying his music governess, a declaration which meets with the hearty approval of Mr. Posket, who promises to give the young couple a cheque for a thousand pounds when they leave for Canada, being glad to get rid at any price of the youth who had led him astray.

The principal characters are Mr. Posket (Mr. C. H. Grace) and Cis Farrington (Mr. E. F. Shewell, R.A.) and both were capitally sustained. Mr. Grace had the same part when the play was last produced, and it is hardly necessary to say that in the hands of such an experienced and capable actor every point was made to tell. The soliloquy in which he recalls the startling events of his night out with Cis, the flight made from the police, his desertion by Cis, and the predicament in which he afterwards found himself, was an inimitable performance. Mr. Shewell's representation of Cis Farrington was also excellent and was the more creditable to the player inasmuch as he had taken the part up at only a week's notice to replace Mr. Sexton, who was most regrettably prevented from appearing. Mr. Shewell entered thoroughly

into the spirit of the part and kept the fun going merrily. The part of Mr. Bullamy was taken by Mr. H. W. Looker, who gave an admirable representation of the good natured old man, who was "not so damned conscientious" as his brother Magistrate. In Mr. A. P. Stokes, who took the part of Colonel Lukyn, the audience had the opportunity of welcoming back to the Hongkong stage an old favourite of whose assistance the Shanghai A.D.C. has during the last few years had the advantage. Mr Stokes looked and acted the part of the Colonel to perfection. Mr. R. K. Bagnal Wil. was entrusted with the part of Captain Horace Vale and filled it satisfactorily. Viscount Suidale represented Achille Blond, the proprietor of the Hotel des Princes, and gave an admirable representation of the oily but excitable Frenchman. Dr. E. Clark was also good as Isidore, the waiter, and Mr. Alias gave a careful rendering of the part of Mr. Wormington, the Magistrate's Clerk. The police contingent was represented by Mr. G. H. Ardron (Inspector Messiter), Mr. J. Andrew (Sergeant Lugg), and Mr. E. P. Harrold (Constable Harris), and the part of Wyke, Mr. Posket's servant, was taken by Mr. H. W. Bird.

As remarked in a paragraph referring to the dress rehearsal, the ladies and their frocks were charming, and each gave a finished representation of her part, at once graceful and humorous. Mrs. R. K. Bagnal-Wild was Agatha Posket (late Farrington, née Verrinder); Mrs. J. Andrew, Charlotte, Mrs. Posket's sister; Mrs. C. H. Grace, Beattie Tomlinson, the young music mistress; and Mrs. Francis Clark, Popham, the maid.

The laughter and applause were hearty throughout the evening and the curtain had to be raised again on the final tableau. Mr. E. W. Mitchell was the stage manager and Mr. H. C. Nicolle the acting manager, and, needless to say, the duties of both offices were very efficiently discharged. By kind permission of Major Morris and the officers, the Band of the Royal Welch Fusiliers played during the intervals.

It may be interesting to some of our readers to see the cast of the '95 performance. It was as follows:—Mr. Posket, Mr. C. H. Grace; Mr. Bullamy, the late Mr. S. L. Darby; Colonel Lukyn, Mr. J. H. Thresher, R.B.; Capt. Horace Vale, Surgeon-Major Westcott; Cis Farrington, Mr. G. G. Brady; Achille Blond, Mr. J. D. Lapraik; Isidore, Mr. A. H. Brabazon, R.M.L.I.; Mr. Wormington, Mr. G. Balloch; Inspector Messiter, Mr. H. C. Nicolle; Sergeant Lugg, Mr. J. Andrew; Constable Harris, Captain A. P. Welman; Wyke, Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N.; Mrs. Posket, Mrs. Alfred Wrottesley; Charlotte, Mrs. J. Andrew; Beattie Tomlinson, Mrs. Welman; Popham, Mrs. Moore.

The A.D.C. gave a second performance of "The Magistrate" in the Theatre Royal on Monday evening, before a large audience, there being not a vacant seat in the dress circle. H.R.H. Prince Henry and H.E. the Governor and Lady and Miss Blake were present. The performance was again most successful, and the continuous laughter and applause showed how much the clever representation of this farce was appreciated. The drawing-room scene in the first and third acts is worthy of special commendation, nothing being lacking in providing a pretty and ideal representation. The band of the Welsh Fusiliers, by kind permission of Major Morris and the officers, was again present and contributed much to the success of the evening. The numbers present on Monday would justify a third performance should the A.D.C. care to arrange it.

It is reported that twelve Russian men-of-war are expected at Nagasaki shortly from Vladivostok and will spend the winter at that port.

At the conclusion of the Inter-port cricket matches at Yokohama recently, a match was arranged between a Ladies' Eleven and a team picked from the gentlemen of both ports, the latter using only the left hand and a wicket for a bat. This resulted in favour of the fair sex, they making 46 runs in the first innings and 22 for four wicket the second, against 27 all out for the gentlemen. We notice two l.b.w. and seven b. to the credit of the ladies, so they must have been there before, or at least some of them. —Shanghai Daily Press.

A MILITARY VIEW OF THE POSITION IN NATAL.

A military correspondent writes:—I agree with to-day's (3rd inst.) leader in every respect, except one, namely, that you neglected to come down like a ton of bricks upon our military authorities at home for being so dilatory. I know for a certainty that on 25th September we had made up our minds upon the South African question and intended to meet the Boers. Notwithstanding this we are unable to have a full army corps in the field in time, and the general officer commanding casually turns up when our troops have been badly handled, and the flag once more held up as a laughing stock for all Europe.

Have no fears about Ladysmith. We have stores and ammunition, and no doubt ten thousand men who can easily hold out against any Boer combination. Remember that after the 9th troops will be pouring in, and victory is sure. An additional Naval Brigade may be waiting even now at Durban. Expect no news for some time. Expect to hear that the Volunteers have been called out, and that the War Department will get beans from the public. This will all tend to do good and remedy many evils in our system at home. India is O.K. Take an old soldier's tip, the Boers have made a bad strategical move in coming down so far.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE TRANSVAAL.

WAR EXCITEMENT GROWS IN MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 30th October. During the last week the interest in the Transvaal has increased tenfold. The local papers have done their share towards educating the population with their daily telegrams and rather uncertain and indefinite explanatory articles. A Spanish paper beat all the rest by promptly getting out a map of the troubled country, and great numbers of copies were sold; but events have proved that about half of the names of towns mentioned in the papers are not on the map. However, in spite of these obstacles there are a few people in the city who can talk intelligently on the present difficulty, and others are learning fast.

A Britisher named Captain Ewing has brought to a head a heap of enthusiasm among his friends. Several meetings have been held, during the course of which there were a number of patriotic speeches that took in and discussed all sides of the question. Some clerks employed in the Quartermaster and Commissary departments got wind of the affair and decided to throw in their fortunes with the rest, so a roll was made and a number of men put down their names as being willing to go to the Transvaal. Manila has a good sized sprinkling of discharged soldiers who are simply passing away a little time before going home, or waiting for opportunities to engage in business or speculation, and it was not long before a fair percentage of this floating population was interested. "Once a soldier, always a soldier," is not so far wrong, and it is very likely that Captain Ewing can command nearly all these old trained soldiers and scouts almost any day in the week that he may choose. Many Britishers from home as well as the colonies have signified their readiness to march against the Boers, if they can only get within walking distance of them. On last Saturday night there were 128 names on the roll and promises of 300 more, so the movement does not lack popular support.

The question of transportation is rather a stumbling block, as the trip to South Africa is somewhat expensive. The British Vice-Consul was approached in an unofficial manner, so the story goes, but for obvious reasons of neutrality law, he was unable to offer any material aid. The question of chartering a ship is being agitated and a movement is suggested to have the British merchants of the city subscribe the necessary cash. However, this is only a rumour as yet.

An attempt was made by the representative of an American paper to telegraph the facts of the movement to the States, but the press censor advanced the usual neutrality objections; and besides nothing was known officially concerning the matter.

In order to keep within the law as far as possible, in the event of success, no organisation will be made until after the arrival in South Africa, when they will quickly get themselves in shape and offer their services to the British Commander for duty in any capacity, but preferably as scouts and on independent work.

SUICIDE OF MR. A. MACMILLAN, TOKYO.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS"]
Kobe, 4th October.

Mr. A. Macmillan, chief superintendent of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, has committed suicide with a revolver at Tokyo.

INQUESTS.

SUICIDE OF AN INDIAN AT SHANKIWAN.

At the Magistracy yesterday afternoon Mr. G. M. P. Acting Police Magistrate, held an enquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Bunda Singh, who was found dead at Shaukiwan on the 20th ult.

Mr. F. Browne, Government Analyst, said that on Oct. 21st he received from Inspector Robertson a pewter pot and a bowl of food. He found traces of opium outside the pot. The food appeared to be two or three days old and contained no opium. On Oct. 21st he received from Dr. Lowson the contents of the stomach of deceased and found evidence of opium in large quantities. He should say that there was more than sufficient opium to cause death.

Mr. Marx, of the soap and soda factory at Shaukiwan, said that shortly after six o'clock on the morning of the 20th October he was called to look at deceased, who was the watchman at the works. He found him lying outside his house senseless. He had the man carried to his room and sent for the Inspector. The man died the same morning. He did all he could to bring him round. Deceased had had some quarrel the night before with some Chinese coolies, whom he had reported for stealing wood. These coolies were still employed at the works. He had seen deceased almost insensible before, but he could not say whether his condition was caused by taking opium or drinking.

The Chinaman who found deceased insensible said that the man frequently took opium and water. He had told him not to do so, but he used to say it did not matter.

Inspector Robertson said that when called to deceased he asked him what was the matter and he said he did not know. When asked if he had been drinking samshu he said no. Witness remained with him for about an hour, when he left him, as he seemed to be getting better. He subsequently went to see him again and found that he was dead. He found the pewter pot produced in deceased's quarters. He had seen deceased several times in a stupid condition. He found a number of promissory notes in deceased's box.

The enquiry was adjourned so that the evidence of Dr. Lowson, who made the post mortem, may be taken.

THE FATAL FALL IN GOUGH STREET.

His Worship next enquired into the death of the girl—aged 13—who lost her life by falling from a verandah off Gough Street on Saturday. It was stated that deceased fell from a verandah a distance of 44 feet. Death was instantaneous, the skull being completely smashed in. The enquiry was adjourned.

SUICIDE BY HANGING.

The supposed suicide of a girl, aged 17, who lived at 93, Third Street, was investigated. On the 16th ult. the girl's step-mother reported to Inspector McLennan that the girl had committed suicide by hanging. On going to the house he found the girl laid on a bed dead, with a coiled rope placed at her head. There was the mark of a rope round her neck. It appeared that the girl was left alone in the house, and when the step-mother returned she found her hanging by a rope which was placed round her neck. She at once took her down, but she was then dead. The girl had not taken her food well for some days. A verdict in accordance with the evidence was returned.

Fine weather favoured the second and third days' Races at Shanghai. The first day was wet.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

The fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held on Thursday afternoon. The President (Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer) presided, and there were also present the Vice-President (the Hon. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of Police), the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Mr. E. Osborne Dr. Clark, (Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. C. W. Duggan (Secretary).

LATRINE ACCOMMODATION IN THE CITY.

The SECRETARY submitted a report by the Sanitary Surveyor on the latrine and urinal accommodation of the city of Victoria and its connection with the fouling of storm-water drains. He added that the report had been supplied to the members and the press.

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY proposed that the report be forwarded to the Government for favourable consideration, and that the Government be asked to call on the Public Works Department for a design and estimate for an underground latrine in a suitable locality and also provide the necessary funds for the construction of the same next year. He was not sure that it would be possible to do this, but Mr. Drury took a very great interest in this matter, and he thought he would be very anxious to make such a thing a success. If it was successful it would save them a good deal of trouble in regard to sites for latrines and no doubt would prove an enormous convenience to the public.

Dr. CLARK, in seconding, remarked that he did not think the Board was in favour of everything in the report—he was not in favour of the proposal to deal with the night soil from the Peak—but the report brought out very strongly one point which the Board had urged upon the Government for years past and that was the lamentable accommodation in the city. Here they were at the end of another year and nothing had been done. No latrines had been built except one in Ship Street which replaced a previous one. He thought that forwarding that report would accentuate the fact that they wanted latrines, that they wanted them badly, and that they wanted them at once. They should again urge upon the Government the immediate necessity for the provision of further latrine accommodation in the city.

The motion was carried.

Mr. OSBORNE thought the thanks of the Board and of the community generally were due to Mr. Drury for the very able manner in which he had gone into the question and drawn up his report. He thought it was due to Mr. Drury, who had gone so thoroughly into the matter, that more than a passing notice should be taken of the report and that as many of his suggestions as were practicable should, if the Board agreed, be carried out—or that the Board should ask the Government to carry them out. They could not deal with the question of the removal of nightsoil just now, because he understood they had only just recently renewed the contract for three years. But there might be other suggestions in the report which they might be ready to adopt, and he proposed that a committee consisting of the Director of Public Works, the Medical Officer of Health, and the Vice-President be appointed to consider what recommendations in the report could be adopted at present and what recommendations must await the new conservancy contract. He thought also that steps should be taken for the bringing up of the report again when the present conservancy contract was finished.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said he would have pleasure in seconding if Mr. Osborne would allow his name to be substituted for his.

This was agreed to and the motion was carried.

On the motion of Mr. OSBORNE, seconded by the VICE-PRESIDENT, a vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Drury for his valuable report.

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY proposed—"That the Board recommend the erection of a public latrine on a corner lot of Crown land in Tai-ping-shan bounded on the west by Tank Lane and on the south by Bridge Street." He added that this was rendered necessary by the fact that the site previously selected by the Medical Officer of Health and himself adjoining Pound Lane was objected to and the objections were upheld by Government.

Dr. CLARK seconded and the motion was carried.

REPORT OF THE VISITING SUB-COMMITTEE.

The report of the District Visiting Sub-Committee for the fourth quarter of 1899 was submitted. It dealt with No. 9. district, which both this year and in previous years has, as the sub-committee remarks, proved a very hot bed of plague. The sub-committee make the following observations with regard to the different streets and lanes visited by them:—

Sai-Wat Lane.—Went through this lane and noticed that nearly all the ground floors, which are really basements, were now unoccupied; last year they were inhabited. The drains were choked with dirt and rubbish, though said to have been cleared and swept at noon. Some down pipes from the upper floors were choked with filth, and the sullage water overflowing from the cistern heads and falling into the lane. Air very foul in this lane owing to this.

Second Street No. 105.—Two floors; 8 cubicles on first floor on which 25 adults and many children were living; rent of the first floor \$7.50 a month; walls clean.

Sheung Fung Lane.—9 feet wide. Inspected Nos. 16, 18, 6, and 4. Found cubicles on all ground floors. The first floors have not the four feet space above the cubicles nearest eaves required by law—as usual the only window is monopolized by one cubicle excluding light and air from the others. Plague occurred in Nos. 6 and 16 this year. All the houses in this lane were condemned as unfit for human habitation, and have since been altered and much improved by the owner.

Second Street, No. 78.—Cubicles on all floors, very dark, back premises wet and unwholesome owing to level below Third Street.

Tak Sing Lane.—Inspected both floors of Nos. 5 and 7. Large sized cubicles, the one next the window monopolizing the light and air. No. 7 is a shoemaker's shop in which a number of young boys are employed. Plague occurred in No. 5.

On Wy Lane.—Inspected two houses.

Second Street—No. 40.—On Wy Lane forms a back lane to the first floor Second Street and very clearly demonstrates the value of back lanes. Plague occurred No. 40.

Inspected a lane without a name in which a number of new three storeyed houses are being built. They seem to have insufficient space in the rear for light and ventilation. Saw two houses.

Inspected Sai-ying-poon Market, which is much overcrowded, dark and low, but clean; urgently needs whitewashing and general repairs.

Centre Street, No. 26.—No remarks.

Sai-Un Lane No. 26.—Inhabited chiefly by street coolies, very dark and overcrowded. Ascertained that the rent of the front cubicle which got the light and air was \$1.90 per month and the back ones \$1.50. Seems very high for the accommodation afforded.

Tor Seem Street.—Inspected Nos. 21 and 23, First floors common lodging house for men, top floors brothels.

In all we visited 9 streets and lanes and 17 houses, in four of which plague had occurred. We were chiefly struck by the overcrowding in all cases, and the absence of light and air in all the cubicles except the one next the window.

The Ordinance now before the Legislative Council will, if passed, effect great improvement in this District, by abolishing cubicles on the ground floors, and putting back from the windows 4 feet all other cubicles.

THE CREMATION OF HINDOO BODIES.

Papers were submitted dealing with the cremation of Hindoo bodies at Happy Valley.

Dr. Clark wrote the Secretary of the Board on the 24th Oct.—"The burning of the bodies of Hindoos at the Happy Valley is causing a nuisance to the residents at Morrison Hill. Will you please ascertain who has charge of the land on which these cremations take place, as I consider that they should be carried out before 6 a.m. The last cremation took place in the afternoon about 4 p.m."

To this enquiry the Secretary replied on the 25th Oct.—"No one appears to be in charge of this piece of ground, which is apparently Government ground used by the people who perform the cremations. Would it be well to get the Government to set aside a piece of

ground for the purpose, and to make regulations for the proper conduct of these cremations?"

Dr. Clark to Sanitary Inspector Brett:—"Report the exact position of this piece of Crown land. Is it enclosed in any way? What is done with the ashes, etc., after the cremation is complete?"

Sanitary Inspector Brett reported:—"The position of this piece of Crown land is mid-way between the road leading from the Naval Hospital to Happy Valley and 150 yards south of it. It is not enclosed in any way. The ashes are apparently left on the spot when the cremation is finished."

Dr. Clark minuted—"I think this had better be referred to the Board to request the Government to make some better provision for the cremation of the bodies of Hindoos."

Dr. CLARK remarked that he thought that if the Board asked the Government to refer the matter to the Director of Public Works he would be able to make some better arrangement. He proposed that the Government be recommended to do this.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was carried.

THE PROPOSED ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

The Colonial Secretary wrote to the Secretary of the Board, under date October 30th, as follows:—

"With reference to your letter No. 110 of the 29th ult., forwarding a report by a select committee of the Board on the question of increasing the staff of the Sanitary Department, I am directed to request you to ascertain from the Board in detail why it considers an Assistant Medical Officer of Health necessary and to have a statement drawn up shewing what duties that officer will have to discharge which cannot now be undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health."

Dr. Clark minuted—"I attach a rough abstract of the present duties of the Medical Officer of Health. I do not think it would be advisable to allocate any special branch of the work at first to the Assistant Medical Officer of Health, as he should be capable at any time of taking full charge, and the local sanitary laws are so different to the home laws that it takes months of actual practice to acquire an accurate knowledge of them. The duties are more than one man can efficiently perform, at least in this climate."

Dr. Clark gives the abstract of the duties of the Assistant Medical Officer of Health as follows:—

To assist in performing the following duties:

- (1)—Directing and superintending the work of the Inspectors of Nuisances and of the Scavenging and Conservancy contingency.
- (2)—Visiting insanitary, overcrowded, and unwholesome dwellings, and to report in writing the action necessary to be taken to abate the nuisance.
- (3)—Giving expert evidence when required in prosecutions for the abatement of nuisances, etc.
- (4)—Visiting premises and advising the Inspectors of Nuisances as to the correct interpretation and applicability of the sanitary laws in doubtful cases.
- (5)—Compiling the vital statistics of the colony and to report and advise upon all matters arising out of such statistics.
- (6)—Examining all plans of new buildings and alterations to buildings with a view to due observance of all sanitary laws, bye-laws, and Government notifications.
- (7)—Visiting dairies and cattle-sheds and to examine all persons and cattle therein, as provided for in Ordinance 17 of 1897, with a view to the prevention of the spread of disease by contaminated milk.
- (8)—Reporting upon the sanitary condition of opium divans, lodging houses, cattle-sheds, bake-houses, laundries, basements, offensive trade premises, public latrines, etc., with a view to the issue of licenses and permits.
- (9)—To examine samples of food with a view to their seizure, condemnation, and destruction if unsound.
- (10)—Examining when necessary dead bodies found or reported as being upon premises, and to advise as to whether death has resulted from an infectious disease.

(11.) Directing the disinfection and cleansing of all infected premises and to advise upon and if adopted to enforce the best methods of prevention of the spread of infectious diseases.

(12.) Superintending the special work authorised by Bye-laws 23, 24, and 25, made under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, during periods of epidemics, and to visit and report upon the districts so affected.

(13.) Advising as to the necessity for new sanitary laws and bye-laws, and to assist in drafting them, when required to do so, and

(14.) To act on behalf of the Medical Officer of Health in his absence.

The PRESIDENT proposed that the abstract be forwarded to Government.

Mr. OSBORNE seconded.

The VICE-PRESIDENT thought that the Board ought to point out that the growth of the colony, the constant recurrence of epidemic disease, and the important legislation that was constantly taking place in sanitary matters increased the work of the Medical Officer of Health so much that one man could not really perform the whole work now.

This suggestion was adopted and the motion carried.

LIMEWASHING.

Mr. Shelton Hooper applied on behalf of the Land Investment Company for an exemption in regard to houses in Stanton Street, Elgin Street, and Peel Street on the ground that they were colour-washed and not lime-washed in the ordinary way.

On the motion of the Hon. R. D. ORMSBY, seconded by Mr. OSBORNE, the application was refused.

BERI-BERI IN HONGKONG.

The mortality statistics for Hongkong for the week ended 21st October showed a death-rate of 21.6, against 20.1 for the previous week and 18 the corresponding week last year. The rate for the following week was 20.6, against 21.3 for the corresponding week last year.

The PRESIDENT said there was an increase of deaths from beri-beri.

Dr. CLARK—Especially in Wanchai. Nearly all the deaths here have been from beri-beri.

The PRESIDENT—I think it would be advisable for the Medical Officer of Health to make a report.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded.

Mr. OSBORNE—Is it infectious.

The PRESIDENT—Yes.

The mortality statistics for Macao for the week ended 15th October showed 64 deaths.

THE OUTBREAK OF RINDERPEST

AT POKFULAM.

Mr. Ladds (Colonial Veterinary Surgeon) reported on the 8th inst.:

"I have the honour to report as follows for the information of the Sanitary Board upon the outbreak of rinderpest at the Pokfulam Dairy Farm Company's premises, two of whose sheds were declared by the Board to be infected at a meeting held on Sept. 27th last. Since that time eleven animals in all have died from the disease, viz., one cow, nine young heifers, and one small calf. The last death occurred on Oct. 14th. From the time of my admission into hospital I have received daily reports from the company's manager, and Inspector Watson has given one when I considered it necessary. I do not yet recommend that these premises be declared free from disease."

The VICE-PRESIDENT said that during this year or last year Mr. Ladds cured an animal of rinderpest by inoculating serum of his own manufacture. This was a very important matter, and it did not appear to have been followed up. He thought the reason Mr. Ladds gave was that he had not got suitable calves from which to collect the serum. He begged to move that Mr. Ladds be asked to report on the matter as to where he could collect the serum and if he could collect it whether he could get it so as to have it ready for a fresh outbreak. He knew of his own personal knowledge that there was tremendous mortality among the cattle over in the New Territory. He did not know what the disease was—whether it was rinderpest or not; but he should imagine it was, and that the infection was brought into Hongkong by means of the straw and fodder from the mainland.

The PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was carried.

This was all the business.

THE GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

On Thursday at noon an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the office of the General Agents (Messrs. Lutgens, Einstmann and Co.), No. 9, Praya Central, for the purpose of confirming or otherwise the special resolutions passed at the extraordinary general meeting held on Oct. 25th. Mr. R. C. Wilcox presided, and there were also present Messrs. A. Denison, A. Abessor (directors), L. Lambotte (secretary), A. W. Best, J. C. Remedios, E. Georg, J. R. Michael, J. D. Barros, and G. P. Lammert.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I think there is nothing to say to-day about the resolutions we passed at the meeting held on the 25th ult. Therefore I beg to propose the confirmation of the first resolution—"That is desirable to reconstruct the Company and accordingly that the Company be wound up voluntarily and that Leopold Lambotte Assistant to Messrs. Lutgens, Einstmann & Company the General Agents of the Company be and he is hereby appointed Liquidator for the purposes of such winding up."

Mr. MICHAEL seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The second resolution is—"That the said liquidator be and he is hereby authorized to consent to the registration of a new Company to be named the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Company, Limited, with a memorandum and articles of association which have already been prepared with the privity and approval of the directors of this Company." I propose that the resolution be confirmed. Will some gentleman second it?

Mr. LAMMERT seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to propose the confirmation of the following resolution—"That the draft agreement submitted to this meeting and expressed to be made between this Company and its Liquidator of the one part and the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Company Limited (the proposed new company) of the other part be and the same is hereby approved and that the said liquidator be and he is hereby authorized pursuant to Section 149 of the Companies Ordinance 1865 to enter into an agreement with such New Company (when incorporated) in the terms of the said draft, and to carry the same into effect with such (if any) modifications as he thinks expedient."

Mr. BEST seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting to-day, gentlemen. We shall now proceed to register the new company as soon as we can, and you will hear later on from the agents. We have no news from the mines to give you to-day.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR NOVEMBER.

There was an average number of competitors for the monthly medal, the winner's card recording a good round: 45 4 4 4 5 6 4 5=41, and 5 5 4 4 2 5 6 5 3=39.

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	80	0	80
" J. F. A. Hastings, R.N.	97	14	83
" H. W. Robertson	98	13	85
" C. Palmer	95	9	86
Lieut. Brooke, R.N.	94	6	88
Mr. H. W. Slade	107	17	90
" V. A. C. Hawkins	100	9	91
Comd. Davison, R.N.	106	14	92

21 entries.

POOL.

Mr. J. H. T. McMurtrie	80	0	80
" C. Palmer	95	9	86
Lieut. Brooke, R.N.	94	6	88
Comd. Davison, R.N.	106	14	92

15 entries.

It is notified in the Gazette that Mr. C. W. T. Brett and Mr. J. J. McMichael have been appointed Inspectors of Nuisances.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Some excellent scores were made on Saturday afternoon in practice for the Interport Match, no less than six possibles being made at the 500 yards range. Mr. A. H. Skelton established a record for Hongkong with a score of 103, being closely followed by Inspector McLennan with 102 and Company Sergeant-Major Wallace, R.E., with 100. It should be mentioned that this is McLennan's first shoot since he took part in last year's Interport Match. Scores:—

	200	300	400	500	Hoop	Total
Mr. A. H. Skelton*	34	35	34	—	—	103
Inspector McLennan	34	35	33	—	—	102
C. S. M. Wallace, R.E.*	33	35	32	—	—	100
Mr. Pidgeon*	31	35	29	3	—	98
Sergt. Bowery, R.E.*	29	35	32	—	—	96
Sapper Clarke, R.E.	32	35	29	—	—	96
Mr. Baldwin	32	31	29	6	—	98
Ar. Sgt. Blair	30	34	30	—	—	94
Corpl. Hills, R.E.	32	30	31	—	—	93
Mr. Dawson	32	26	27	6	—	91
Mr. Marshall	33	33	23	—	—	89

*Winners of Spoons.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

FIRST RACE, 5TH NOVEMBER, 1899.

The first Club race for the A class was postponed and Mr. Slade kindly offered a prize for that class.

The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round a mark boat off Lyemun, Kowloon Rock, and mark boat off Lyemun, all to starboard; fourteen miles. The following boats started in a light east wind:—

A class.—Maid Marion, Iris, Erica, Chanticleer, Bonito.

B class.—Meteor Dart, Payne, and Princess. Meteor allowed the other three 4 minutes 40 seconds.

The Iris is a new boat built this season for the Hon. F. H. May from a design by Mr. Denison, and considerable interest was taken in this race as a test of her qualities, but unfortunately she was recalled at the start, and had to make her way back in a very light wind against a strong ebb tide, and when she did cross the wind had nearly died away near the starting line.

The Chanticleer got away with the best position and, closely followed by the Erica and Bonito, led the way to the Lyemun mark boat, which she rounded with a lead of about half-a-minute in front of Erica with Bonito and Maid Marion in close company. The Erica is now the property of the R.E. Officers' mess, and appears to have lost none of her qualities, but she had the misfortune to get on the Kowloon Rock and lost the very good chance she had of the race by sticking there for a very very long time. Her example was followed by the Iris, but she got off with little loss of time. The Maid Marion also is reported to have touched the rock. The Kowloon Rock was rounded in the following order.—Maid Marion, Bonito, Erica, Chanticleer, Iris, then Dart, Meteor, Payne, and Princess. Chanticleer was very slow on the reach across and lost about eight minutes owing to the calm near the rock, but on the beat up to Lyemun mark she pulled off most of this on all but the Maid. The order at this mark was Maid Marion, Bonito, Chanticleer, Erica, Meteor, and Dart.

In the run down to the finish, Chanticleer passed Bonito and the line was crossed as follows.—

A class	H. M. S.	B class	H. M. S.	points
Maid Marion	4 6 36	Meteor	4 39 11	4
Chanticleer	4 14 10	Dart	4 43 0	10
Bonito	4 15 21			
Erica	4 18 50			

Four Chinaman were badly burned on Sunday night as the result of the explosion of a kerosine lamp at No. 2 Tank, Robinson Road, in the watchman's quarters. The lamp exploded about a minute after it had been re-lit after having been extinguished by the wind. A Chinaman's clothing was set on fire and three others who went to his rescue were burned. Their injuries were attended to at the Nethersole Hospital.

CRICKET.

HONGKONG C.C. V. THE GARRISON.

The Garrison made a poor show against the Hongkong C.C. on Saturday last, only securing 98 against 227. Of this 98 Captain Langhorne was himself responsible for 67, which was made up of ten 4's, one 3, six 2's, and twelve 1's. Captain Langhorne and Captain Tulloch batted first for the Garrison, and Captain Langhorne's was the sixth wicket to fall. The score then stood at 97, and it remained at the same figure when the seventh and eighth men had been dismissed, being subsequently raised to 98. The Cricket Club were represented at the wickets first by Lieutenant Jelf, R.N., and H. E. Green. The last-named had not a long life, being caught when he had made one run and when the score had reached ten. Lieutenant Jelf, however, made a much better stand; he did not return to the Pavilion until 129 was telegraphed. Of this number he was responsible for 56, including ten 4's, three 2's, and ten 1's. The next highest score was T. J. Wilde, whose 39 was made up of one 6, six 4's, three 2's, and three 1's. In the bowling Hancock distinguished himself for the Club, taking four wickets for eight runs. The Rev. G. R. Vallings for the Garrison, took five wickets for 69 runs. Score:—

THE GARRISON.

Capt. Langhorne, R.A., c Jelf, b Hancock	67
Capt. Tulloch, R.A., c Ross, b Mackenzie	0
Lieut. Rotherham, R.W.F., b Ross	2
Lieut. Higgon, R.W.F., c Nugent, b Ross	3
Lieut. Hill, R.W.F., c and b Mackenzie	0
Private Preedy, b Hancock	5
Rev. G. R. Vallings, c Wilde, b Jelf	8
Lieut. Mulliken, R.A., b Hancock	0
Capt. Simonds, R.A., c Wilde, b Hancock	5
Capt. Waymouth, R.A., c Ward, b Jelf	4
Lieut. Thomson, R.A., not out	0
Extras	2

Total 98

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

Lieut. Jelf, R.N., c and b Vallings	56
H. E. Green, c Simonds, b Vallings	1
A. G. Ward, b Vallings	24
J. A. Ross, c and b Preedy	0
H. C. Hancock, c Hill, b Langhorne	41
J. E. Lees, c Thomson, b Vallings	5
Lieut. Nugent, R.N., c Higgon, b Mulliken	27
T. J. Wilde, c Mulliken, b Vallings	39
K. Mounsey, c and b Preedy	6
A. Mackenzie, c Thomson, b Preedy	5
P. A. Cox, not out	15
Extras	8

Total 227

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

THE GARRISON.

	Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B. Wickets.
Mackenzie	13	3	34	—	2
Ross	12	5	20	—	2
Hancock	11	8	8	—	4
Lee	5	—	23	—	—
Jelf	3.2	1	9	—	2

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

	Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B. Wickets.
Preedy	20.1	5	71	—	3
Vallings	19	7	69	—	5
Waymouth	6	1	20	—	—
Higgon	3	—	15	—	—
Langhorne	7	2	22	—	1
Mulliken	5	1	22	—	1

FOOTBALL.

HONGKONG ENGINEERS V. V.R.C.

Quite a number of spectators made their way to the Hongkong Engineers' ground at Causeway Bay on Saturday last to witness the new team's debut, the V.R.C. having the honour to be their opponents on that auspicious occasion.

The playing portion of the ground is rather rough, owing to the attentions of the polo ponies, but this is not altogether a disadvantage, as it makes it much easier for the players to keep their feet than on the smoother turf of the valley.

The teams lined up at 4.40 as follows:—**Engineers**:—J. Blake, goal; Wilson and Dyer, backs; Lapsley, Henderson, and Ritchie, halves; and Libeaud, Smillie, Duncan, Galt, and Benjamin, forwards. **V.R.C.**:—Chunnett, goal; Craig and Tuohy, backs; Williams, Brett and Loureiro, halves; and Seth, Taylor, Dandy, Swanson, and Henderson, forwards.

Although a new team there are but one or two names among the Engineers we are unfamiliar with Messrs. Henderson, Wilson, Ritchie, and Co., of the old Kowloon brigade, are not altogether

her unknown to fame in this colony, and we fancy any team that contains them will soon have a name to itself. Turning to the game, twenty minutes each way was agreed on owing to the late start. Immediately at the outset the Engineers shewed their superiority, but though they pressed they could not break down the stubborn defence of the V.R.C. backs. The Recreation halves and forwards were much too light for their opponents, the former being able to do little but hamper the Engineers' forwards, while the latter were promptly knocked off the ball whenever they essayed to get away with it. Fine play by Craig and Tuohy kept down the Engineers' score and at half-time they had only registered one goal to nothing. After the interval the Recreation men began to weary and their heavier opponents took full advantage, adding another 3 points and finishing winners by 4 goals to nil.

The winners' strength lay in their defence, which shewed up very favourably against the weak attack opposed to it, but let them be warned not to put too much store by this, as they will have much stronger attacks to meet. In their forwards they are not so strong, their weakness lying in their outside men. They shewed very little combination, but this may have been through want of knowledge of each others' style. Taken as a team they are not at all bad, on the contrary if they can secure a couple of strong forwards they will be very difficult indeed to beat. Duncan, Dyer, Smillie, and that old stager Henderson, shewed up prominently among them.

Of the V.R.C., the backs, Craig and Tuohy, were easily the best and saved their side from a much heavier defeat. Chunnett behaved well in goal. Swanson was clever forward and only lacks weight to be a really good player. Seth was tricky, but gave way to his usual fault of holding on to the ball. Henderson (V.R.C.) put in some good work both at half and forward. The whole team played pluckily but they want a deal of practice, as with one or two exceptions none of the players can obtain quick command of the ball and all of them lack judgment. They are very severely handicapped by their lack of weight and considering this are to be congratulated on showing up so well against such heavy opponents.

The Dock staff had a couple of games at their ground, Kowloon Dock, with H.M.S. *Endymion* on Tuesday and Friday last. On both occasions victory rested with the Dock "boys," the score being 1.0 in the first game and 2.0 in the second.

THE HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB V.

G. CO. R.W.F.

The football game between the Hongkong Football Club and G. Co. Royal Welch Fusiliers on Tuesday ended in a draw. Although both sides had opportunities nothing was scored. The Welshmen were the worst offenders in this respect, missing several easy chances. The soldiers' right winger, Pugh, is a remarkably smart little player and gave Pinckney no end of trouble, the big back being altogether unable to cope with him.

THE HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB V. THE 38TH CO. S.D. R.A.

Immediately before this match, played on Wednesday Dr. Atkinson, President Hongkong Football Club, with a few well-chosen words of congratulation handed over the Six-a-Side Challenge Cup to Mr. Noble, Captain of the winning six, and also presented to the members of the team the very choice gold medals given by Mr. Chadwick T. Kew.

The game started promptly, the following forming the teams:—

Club:—F. H. Kew, goal; M. B. Blake and R. J. Hall, backs; H. W. Looker, C. T. Kew, and W. Howard, halves; and C. J. Libeaud, H. E. Green, J. F. Noble, H. C. R. Hancock, and J. D. Danby, forwards.

38th Coy:—Murphy, goal; Wilson and P. S. Bell, backs; Milne, Steele, and Gidman, halves; and Harris, Frost—Lt. Greene, Stiles, and Panter, forwards.

Referee, Mr. H. W. Slade.

The Club was a couple of men short of its full strength, but the Artillery too had not its best eleven on the field, being worse off in this respect than the Club. The

first half of the game was rather in favour of the soldiers but there was not much in it. Both teams' play indicated the beginning of the season, as very little combination was shewn and mis-kicks and mis-judged passes were frequent.

At times there were flashes of brilliant play, but as a whole, although the game was interesting throughout, the players shewed evidence of not being settled down as yet in their positions. At half-time there was no score.

After the interval the Artillery took up the attack and maintained it for a little while. They were very near scoring, particularly on one occasion when their inside left struck the post, but the Club, probably on account of better condition, wore them down. About ten minutes of the second half had gone when Danby received in a good position, tricked the back, and shot an excellent goal, clean out of the custodian's reach.

The Club men worked together better after this and did the bulk of the attacking. Looker on one occasion made a fine attempt with a header, but Murphy in goal saved.

To the end the Club were somewhat the stronger, but there was no addition to the score and the game ended:—

Club	1
38th Company	0

The Artillery, although not so well represented as in last season's final, had a capable eleven and one quite equal to giving a good game to any team in the Colony.

They are heavy and strong, and their forwards have a dangerous method of swinging the ball from wing to wing. In Lieut. Greene they have a clever and unselfish centre forward.

Kew in the Club goal was safe as usual. Blake played well at back, kicking strongly and surely, tackling well, and withal shewing excellent judgment. Hall, his partner, although not doing badly and playing well in the open, shewed lack of resource when pressed. He is a good man but unaccustomed to the position. Looker tackled very well, but might place better. He has a tendency to kick too strongly.

Chad. Kew played his usual hard and successful game, and Howard, although not in his last season's form, played splendidly considering that it was his first turn out for the season. Libeaud did not do badly, but is not the same class as the other forwards. Green was in fine fettle and was on the day's play the best of the Club's forwards, his passing and judgment being excellent. Noble was not at his best, being a little rash and reckless occasionally.

The more we see of the left wing the more we like it. Hancock gives some beautiful passes to Danby and his fault is, we think, that he devotes himself too much to his partner to the neglect of the centre. Danby's speed and strength make him a most dangerous wing man.

THE SHIELD COMPETITION.

The draw for the first round of the football Shield competition was made on Tuesday. Fifteen teams had entered and they came out of the hat as follows:—25th E.D. R.A., a bye; C Coy. R.W.F. v B Coy. R.W.F.; Hongkong F.C. v 25th S.D. R.A.; A Coy. R.W.F. v 38th S.D. R.A.; Engineers' Institute v F Coy. R.W.F.; H.M.S. *Victorious* v R.E.; D Coy. R.W.F. v H Coy. R.W.F.; G Coy. R.W.F. v V.R.C. To be played off on or before December 31st. First club has choice of ground but must provide ball.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

6th November.

Members of the Hongkong Football Club are probably not aware that their amateur status is in danger. Let them take warning from the following conversation overheard between a Royal Welch Fusilier and a 38th Co. Royal Artilleryman. Apparently they are discovered. **FUSILIER**:—"Say! Don't think you chaps 'll have much chance against the Hongkong Club Fellers for the shield this time."

ARTILLERYMAN:—"Can't expect us; they're all professionals."

FUSILIER:—"Professionals?"

ARTILLERYMAN:—"Yes; they all play for lucre (Looker)."

Our informant does not tell us what was then done to the artilleryman.

The Club have not had their opening match as yet, their only game during the week being

the practice game of Monday last. This served to give them a good idea of the material they have at their disposal and we think they should be well satisfied with what they have got. Several of their new members show promise, but we hardly think they will find it advantageous to discard any of their old team. Blake, while he is here, will well fill the vacancy caused by Anton's departure, and they are fortunate in having such excellent reserves as Hornby, Hall, Hinds, and Jenkins.

The six-a-side competition is, we are glad to state, at last decided, the winning team being Noble's. Their record is 3 games won, 3 drawn, and none lost; and 6 goals scored against one; which gives them 9 points and amply proves they merit their success.

THE INTER-PORT POLO MATCH AT SHANGHAI.

The Inter-port Polo match was played at Shanghai on the 3rd November. The teams were:—

Hongkong.		Shanghai.	
Majo Dabell.....	Back	D. Landale.....	Back.
Major Sir Horace		A. W. Burkil.....	3
MacMahon.....	3	G. Dallas.....	2
R. L. B. Johnson.....	2	F. Crighton.....	1
F. S. W. Wyn.....	1		

The *N. C. Daily News* account of the match is as follows:—The Hongkong polo team have come, have played, and have conquered. The first match with Shanghai, which has filled in an unoccupied day in the Race Week, took place yesterday afternoon, and our visitors can return with the satisfaction that they have gained a victory after a hard-fought game. A number of ladies were among the spectators who watched the match. The opening play went somewhat in favour of Hongkong, and served to show that the team was a strong one. The play was kept to the Shanghai end a good deal, though frequently a passage of clever play would send it to the other end of the field. The game was stopped for a while, as Mr. Crighton's pony stumbled and fell, though luckily no serious damage was done. This happened when Hongkong had scored one subsidiary. They added two to this, when Shanghai got the ball, and with Dallas and Mr. Landale playing well together, scored the first goal of the match. Hongkong soon afterwards got the ball between the posts, and from that point maintained the advantage they had gained. Shanghai played very hard, and often very cleverly, but their opponents were too strong, and the match ended in a win for Hongkong by three goals to one.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE NEW SOLDIERS AND SAILORS HOME, ARSENAL STREET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

To all who have the social, intellectual, moral, and spiritual welfare of the Army and Royal Navy at heart, it is appalling to think of the many temptations, in Hongkong, to which the defenders of our commerce, our liberties, and our lives are exposed. Drinking saloons and brothels abound, in which our countrymen spend their money, deaden their moral sensibilities, and in many cases ruin their health. On the other hand, the attractions and helps to a better life are not what could be desired. The same dangers and temptations threaten men in all great military and naval centres. Heaven-elect ladies like Miss Weston and Miss Robinson have long been at work founding Soldiers and Sailors' Homes in important military and naval stations like Portsmouth, Plymouth, Gibraltar, and Malta. At first this movement, like many a good work, was frowned upon and opposed, but it has outlived its detractors, and the Homes are now highly appreciated not only by those for whom they have been specially built, but also by the Commanders-in-Chief on the foreign stations and the Admiralty and War Office at home.

The Army and Navy Committee of the Wesleyan Church has for many years devoted its available funds to this purpose and has helped

to build some thirty of these Homes in different parts of the world which are open to the use of the men irrespective of creed.

Hongkong, situated as it is on the very outskirts of the British Empire, in the Far East, has always been, and must continue increasingly to be, a most important military and naval centre. A large garrison continues to reside here, thousands of the Royal Navy flock in upon us during the winter months. Yet up to the present no adequate Home has been provided. It is now proposed to supply this desideratum. The following statement will, we venture to hope, present the outlines of the scheme and give a clear idea of the scope of the task on which a few of us have set our minds.

"Sir George H. Chubb and a few other Wesleyans who are specially devoted to the moral and social welfare of the Army and Navy, on the occasion of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, determined to raise a fund for the express purpose of building Soldiers and Sailors' Homes in different parts of the British Empire. A considerable sum was subscribed. In no part of the Queen's dominions, probably, is a thoroughly modern and adequately furnished Home, which shall be conducted on total abstinence principles, more needed than in Hongkong. In view of this fact, the Wesleyan Chaplain and a few friends brought the needs of the Hongkong station before the notice of those in England who are responsible for the administration of this fund, and appealed for help. The Committee has generously voted £1,000, or \$10,000. But the buildings and furnishing of a commodious and attractive Home cannot be less than £12,000; there remains therefore \$8,000 to be raised. Although, technically, the Home will be under the control of the Wesleyan Army and Navy Committee, the building and its privileges will be open to all who seek them, and denominational differences will, as far as possible, be rigidly excluded. Those privileges will comprise beds, billiards, temperance refreshments, and current papers. There will be a hall for concerts. The financial assistance of all who may be interested in the welfare of our soldiers and sailors is earnestly and respectfully solicited."

But it may be asked, is there not already a Soldiers and Sailors' Institute? Is not this sufficient? There has been such an Institute for years, but it has never furnished anything like the necessary attractions. Nor is it possible that any rented building, probably but ill adapted at best, especially with the enormously high rents obtaining in Hongkong to-day, can ever offer facilities for a satisfactory Home. Moreover, the exigencies of Hongkong life have made it necessary for the Committee to change its location three times within a year. Those who know it best, and the good work it has done, are frank to confess that something more complete, more homelike, more adequately furnished—in a word, a modern building which shall furnish better accommodation and offer more attractions—to an absolute necessity. Such a building is now contemplated. When completed it will be a credit to the Colony and a blessing to the men. We venture therefore to hope that all who are able, irrespective of nationality and creed will step forward and help us in this good work.

Cheques may be made payable to the Wesleyan Soldiers and Sailors' Home Fund, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, or to Rev. C. BONE, Gleniffer, Kowloon.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—The sum asked for in your columns to-day on behalf of a Soldiers' and Sailors' Institute is a mere flea-bite to the sympathetic and generous community of Hongkong, and will doubtless easily be obtained. But there are one or two points which merit communication to the public whose help is sought in this matter.

First, the reference in the appeal to the Institution already in existence bears amplification. This is situated in a War Department building given rent free for the purpose. It is most excellently situated in the very centre of the garrison, and at the gates almost of the Royal Naval Yard and Naval landing stage. Its internal space is so huge as to admirably lend itself to adaptation as "a thoroughly modern and adequately equipped Home" such as the public is asked to support. It could without doubt be procured in perpetuity from the

War Department for such a purpose as it is at present devoted to, the more so as it is the fact that the present General in Command here has the welfare of the soldier very closely at heart, and is personally aware of the shameful conditions of barrack room life, which have for so long amounted to nothing less than a scandal, owing to the darksome and gloomy rooms after night-fall, these being lit by oil and ancient lamps of the "farthing-dip" pattern of our ancestors. Further, it could be had rent free.

The structural alterations needed would be nothing as compared with the cost of building an entirely new Institute, even were the site obtained for nothing.

Neither Institution can, it appears, be adequately developed as its respective promoters desire without the help of the public, seeing that for both the help of the public has been solicited through the Press.

It is beyond contention that if both Institutions are developed to the extent indicated in these appeals a needless waste of money and energy will have taken place, because the garrison is not large enough—even with the addition of the Navy—to require or to make proper use of two thoroughly efficient Institutions of the kind, in addition to the Royal Naval Seamen's Club, which supplements certain of the benefits aimed at in the others.

This being so, will the promoters of these rival Institutions not agree to work hand in hand for the establishment of one really efficient and thoroughly equipped Soldiers' and Sailors' Institute, rather than waste sorely needed money in providing two where one good one would amply suffice?

To this end, might the following suggestion be thrown out?

The local Wesleyan body have the generous donation of £1,000 towards the provision of a thoroughly efficient Institution.

Under the auspices of other religious bodies an excellently adapted building has been obtained rent free for the provision of a thoroughly efficient Institution thereon. Only money is wanted to make possible in this building the establishment of one of the finest Soldiers' and Sailors' Institutes in the Empire, the space available being simply immense. Let, then, this latter body raise a further sum of £1,000—only \$2,000 more than is sought by the appeal to-day—and offer the local Wesleyan body the opportunity of adding their £1,000 thereto with the most praiseworthy object of establishing in the building in Queen's Road already granted rent free by Government "a modern and thoroughly equipped Home" such as they are anxious to obtain monetary help for.

If neither body can so far reconcile mutual differences in other matters as to agree to work in concert for the welfare of their flock on lines nowise touching points of doctrine, then I think the public is entitled to ask the reason why, before aiding in the promotion of a quite unnecessary waste of money.

Enclosing my card, I beg to remain, dear sir, yours truly,

INSTITUTE.

Hongkong, 3rd November, 1899.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—I have read with much interest in your issues of the 3rd and 4th inst. the letters on the above subject, and will gladly subscribe \$500 towards the institute, should the suggestions of "Institute," as to the combining of the Wesleyan and other religious bodies and the alteration of the present building in Queen's Road into "a modern and thoroughly equipped Home," be adopted. Enclosing my card, I am, dear sir, yours truly.

D. J.

Hongkong, 4th November, 1899.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I have to thank you for your courtesy in so promptly inserting in your paper the statement I proposed dealing with the proposed New Soldiers and Sailors' Home. It is further a matter of congratulation that your readers are so far interested in this matter as to devote time and thought to its discussion, and that you, sir, moreover, have written a fair and lucid leader thereon. It appears to me, however, that now

I shall hardly be overstepping my duty by contributing something further towards the elucidation of this important question.

The letter of the 4th inst. under which stood the signature of "Institute," need not now detain me, because your leader of the 6th has stated quite clearly one insuperable objection thereto, or to be more accurate, to the suggestion contained therein. G block must be vacated by the 30th of November. Whatever therefore may be the merits or demerits of that building, in posse, need not be discussed here at length. It may, however, be remarked that some months' trial have, I venture to think, proved that it is not very popular with those for whom it was prepared. I believe that the Committee of the present Institute contemplate moving into a room or rooms over a shop in Queen's Road Central. But those most familiar with all the facts know, or perhaps I should say, believe, that this step is not satisfactory, that it has little to recommend it, and is contemplated only because it is Hobson's choice. Five months' trial in Duddell Street, during the present year, clearly indicate what the result of taking hired premises must be.

In your leader, sir, you have referred to the present Royal Naval Seamen's Club, and you have further informed us that General Gascoigne intends to transform G block into a Soldiers' Club. That the General in taking this step has the welfare of the soldiers under his command at heart I am convinced. His attitude towards the present Institute, as I happen to know, has been most generous. Moreover, it may frankly be conceded that such clubs have their place, and that they offer a trysting place for men where they will not be exposed to many of the temptations by which they are surrounded in the drinking houses of Queen's Road. But surely it cannot be maintained, assuming the existence of these clubs, that "The Soldiers' and Sailors' Home proposed by Mr. Bone does not seem to be an urgent necessity." Indeed, you add, or, at least, imply, that there is yet room for such a place. This statement seems too obvious to need support. These clubs afford no suitable accommodation for those in Her Majesty's services who are teetotalers and who, as you truly say, sir, are "generally speaking good conduct men, and seldom get into trouble." There are considerable numbers of men who have accepted total abstinence principles, who, when on shore or out of barracks, are yet unprovided for, but for whom it is our duty to care. My short experience of the Army and Royal Navy has led me to hold most of the men I meet in high esteem, and not least those whose needs I am advocating. But it must be remembered that such "good conduct men" do not stand where they stand to-day without an effort, and sometimes utterly fail. They need a helping hand. Therefore every one conversant with the facts will yet, I venture to think, earnestly contend that such a Home is a pressing need in Hongkong.

I should now, perhaps, state, though originally I had no intention of so doing, that I strenuously urged the desirability of such an Institute as your correspondent of the 4th inst. suggests, though not in G block. For months I deferred the action now taken, and on two different occasions urged the Committee of the Institute to accept a resolution by which we should pledge ourselves to build a suitable place within the next eighteen months. Of course, as is obvious, I could not guarantee that the Wesleyan Army and Navy Committee in London would make a grant of £1,000 for such a home. What I did promise was that I would place before them the facts, appeal for a grant, and I have no doubt they would have freely offered assistance. This position of mine found, I am sorry to say, no support. No alternative therefore was left those of us who bear on our hearts the burden of the necessity of such a home as is now proposed, but to attempt to carry through the scheme ourselves, which when completed—and it surely will be completed in time—will afford a comfortable and an attractive place for the serious and sober, both of the Army and Royal Navy, and, I may add, if they will avail themselves of it, of all the British subjects who form the Hongkong Police Force.

A committee of management, when the time comes, will of course be selected and elected,

which when completed will, I hope, represent different shades of religious opinion, and indeed different religious Churches. As was stated in my communication of the 3rd inst. difference of creed will be rigidly excluded. The home is not intended to be a seed-plot for any particular "religion" but a place where all will find a warm welcome, good food and temperance drinks, and healthy games.

I may add that there will be a meeting in the Wesleyan Military Church, Wanchai, on Thursday evening, the 18th inst., to discuss ways and means, when all who desire information will there and then be supplied therewith and will be heartily welcomed.

As I before clearly stated, technically the building will be under the direction of the Wesleyan Army and Navy Committee, which is not unnatural, seeing they have given £1,000 towards the object. Practically it will be under a committee of management, to be appointed or elected here, comprising, I hope, members of different churches who are interested in the welfare of the Army and Royal Navy. I should like to see evangelical work carried on along the line now obtaining in the present Institute. In fact, when completed the new Home will take its place.—Faithfully yours,

C. BONE.

Hongkong, 7th November, 1899.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—I read with great interest the correspondence and the leader in your valuable paper re a Soldiers and Sailors' Institute for Hongkong, and now beg the privilege of a small space for passing a remark or two from my (a soldier's) point of view. In the first place, is a Home required in Hongkong? I say yes, as a great many men who wish to lead a life of morality and sobriety find it very often an uphill task, as one cannot find the social life in ill-lighted barrack-rooms and the libraries, etc. in barracks for seven days in the week that the heart yearns for, and when one leaves barracks the host of well-lighted and musical drinking dens and brothels at every other corner that one meets do not, as a rule, strengthen the man in his fight against evil.

In the second place, I should say the use of intoxicants ought to be rigidly tabooed, as the drink is responsible, directly or indirectly, for nine-tenths of the "crime" in the army, and I find, as a rule, that one glass leads to many. I should say that such a Home as the Rev. Mr. Bone contemplates building would be a great boon to Soldiers and Sailors, and why not civilians, who could rub shoulders with Tommy and find him not so dark as sometimes painted. A Home such as this would cause many a man to leave the Army at the expiration of his period of service better in body, mind, and, above all, soul, and prepared to enter the lists of life in a civil capacity.

Thanking you, sir, in anticipation.—I am, yours, etc.

T. A.

Hongkong, 8th November, 1899.

A RISING IN KWEICHOW.

The N. C. Daily News publishes the following special telegram dated Chungking, 30th October:—

A revolt has broken out in Jenhuahsien, Kweichow. The magistrate has been murdered, and the situation is considered serious.

GREAT FIRE AT VLADIVOSTOCK.

News has been received of a large fire at Vladivostock on the 17th ult., which occasioned much damage. Seven houses in all were totally destroyed, among them being the Golden Horn Hotel, the principal hotel in the town. The damage is said to amount to more than one hundred thousand yen, which is, however, covered by insurance in St. Petersburg offices. Two persons are reported to have lost their lives during the fire.—China Gazette.

At the meeting of the Directors of The Shanghai Pulp and Paper Co., Limited, held on the 3rd inst. at the office of The American Trading Co., the General Agents, the shares were allotted to all subscribers and the Company duly floated.

A LEKIN STATION IN THE SHANGHAI SETTLEMENT.

IMPORTANT SEIZURE.

Shanghai, 30th October.

Seizure of extreme importance to welfare and good government of the Foreign Settlement was made by the Municipal Police early yesterday afternoon, when Chief Inspector Howard, at the head of posse of Police, seized a regularly equipped lekin station on North Soochow Road, near Chekiang Road Bridge, and arrested the mandarin in charge. The full machinery for the levy of lekin upon all raw cotton coming from up-country to Shanghai was seized, including proclamations, written authorities, chops, receipt forms, books, etc. Fully twenty clerks were at work at the lekin office at the time while three steam-launches and a sampan flying the lekin officer's flag were moored in the Soochow Creek in front of the office, but as the Municipal Police have no control over that waterway, which is under the charge of the I.M. Customs River Police, the flating paraphernalia of the concern could not be seized.

The case came on for hearing in the Mixed Court to-day before the Magistrate and Mr. S. F. Mayers, British Assessor; Chief Inspector Howard conducting the case for the Police. The prisoner, who had been released on bail in \$1,000, cash, did not deny the charge, and it was shown that he had paid the higher provincial authorities the large sum of 79,000 tiao a year for the monopoly of collecting the lekin in this office and was given a proclamation in his favour by Nieh, Provincial Treasurer, and had also written authority of the Shanghai Taotai. The man's predecessor had only paid 70,000 tiao, and the present incumbent had got the post as the result of the visit of Empress-Dowager's Extortioner, Kang Yi, to Shanghai. The office had only been open a week when the Police got wind of its operations and closed it up as above stated, but the books seized showed that even in this brief period a very large sum of money had been collected.

Inspector Howard pointed out to the Court the extreme gravity of the case and the barefaced infringement of the Treaties which the establishment of the "squeeze" station involved as well as its serious consequences to the prosperity and trade of Shanghai. The Assessor quite agreed with this view and commended the action of the Police in making the seizure. A great mass of Chinese documents relating to the office, with translations in English, was put in evidence, but the documents have not been all translated, and after some discussion it was arranged that all the papers seized and the bail money should be held by the Police pending the settlement of the question between the Consular Body and the Chinese authorities. The office, which is now in the hands of Police is to be closed meanwhile.—China Gazette.

RIOT BY RAILWAY WORKERS AT NEWCHWANJ.

A Newchwang despatch from Chinese sources states that the Russian Railway authorities have had a hard time of it recently in keeping their Chinese workmen within their quarters after work; to prevent the plague being brought within the lines. On the 22nd instant there was a regular riot amongst the labourers, who, upon being prohibited from leaving their quarters, went on strike. They were then told that they would forfeit their last two months' pay if they persisted in striking, whereupon there was a regular rush for the Russian Consulate to demand the pay owing them. The Russian Consul refusing on the same grounds, the men became riotous and the Cossack guards—only a few in number—were called out and a volley was fired over the rioters' heads to make the mob disperse. On this the latter became so mutinous and matters looked so threatening that the Cossacks are reported to have flung away their arms and abandoned the Consulate. The mob was just debating whether to set fire to the building or not when some Chinese-speaking foreigners from the Customs came on the scene as peace-makers, and showed the rioters that they were in the wrong, as they should have gone in the first place to complain of their treatment to the Newchwang Taotai, who was bound to take up their case. Further

that if they set fire to the Russian Consulate and did other acts of violence, their action would be construed as rebellion and matters would be the worse for the whole gang. These words are stated to have calmed the mob into reason and the whole crowd, some 700 strong, then marched to the Taotai's *yamen*. As the mail was just then closing for Shanghai the despatch had to be cut short at that point. It should here be also stated that the labourers in this section of the Manchurian Railway are mostly strong, able-bodied young Tsientsinese, who are generally considered a reckless and daring lot.—*N. C. Daily News*

THE MANILA SHARE MARKET.

Mr. Walter A. Fitton, in his monthly market report (dated Manila, 2nd November, says:—Since issue of my last circular but little business has been done in shares. Transactions have been limited to the Banco Espanol Filipino, La Comercial Fabrica, and Electric Light Co. Enquiries, whilst very steady for the above-named Companies, are chiefly for Constancia and Germinol shares, both of which are in strong favour with investors.

General—Varadero, Tramways, Electric Light, and Telephones (the three latter have concessions granted by the Spanish Govt., all acknowledged by the U.S. authorities) are likely to prove paying investments. The Cigar Companies, without exception, are bound to give good results, and the opening of the ports would cause a considerable impetu to those confectioneries making cigarettes.

Dividend.—Varadero is shortly to declare one of 5 per cent. for past half-year's working.

HONGKONG.

Lieut. Blake and Miss Blake paid a visit to Canton last week end, going up on Saturday and returning on Monday, Sunday being spent in seeing the sights. They stayed at the Victoria Hotel.

At the regular meeting of United Service Lodge, 1341, held on Wednesday, 8th inst. Bro. W. G. Crombie, S.W., was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and Wor. Bro. H. J. Watson, Treasurer.

At the Magistracy on Tuesday Mr. Gompertz imposed a fine of \$50 on the master of the German steamer *China* for neglecting to go to the quarantine anchorage on arriving from Newchwang, a place infected with bubonic plague.

We are informed by Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, General Managers of Oliver's Freehold Mines, Limited, that they have received a telegram from the mines giving the result of the October crushing as follows:—"630 tons of quartz crushed for a yield of 575 ozs. retorted gold; mill ran 26 days."

At about seven o'clock Thursday morning a fire broke out on the Austrian Lloyd steamer *Poseidon*, which was lying off Stonecutters Island. The fire originated in the No. 3 hold, some boxes of matches being first alight. The Fire Brigade, with Captain Superintendent May and Deputy Superintendent Baddley, appeared on the scene and battled with the flames, but it was close on 12 o'clock before they were subdued, by which time the hold had been almost entirely filled with water. A large quantity of the cargo was damaged.

On 2nd November the first steam trial trip of the *Isla de Cuba*, one of the Spanish prizes which is being refitted in the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's yard at Kowloon, took place, the party aboard including Lieutenant Hobson, Consul-General Wildman, Captain G. F. F. Wilde, of the *Oregon*; Lieutenant-Commander Walling, Chief Engineer Burgdorf, Mr. David Gillies (Chief Manager of the Dock Company), and Mr. R. Cook (Assistant Manager of the Dock Company). The vessel steamed out to the usual course, which she went over four times. Her general average was 14.85 knots and her best two miles was completed in 8 mins. 43 secs. Her general average was better than that of the *Isla de Luzon* by one knot, however, being 8 mins. 27 secs. Admiral Watson is sending over the regular crews for the two vessels in December, the final trips being fixed for the 15th of that month. The *Don Juan de Austria* will not be ready until a month afterwards.

We are advised by the acting Secretary of the Panjom Mining Co., Limited, that a telegram has been received from the mines, giving the result of the October clean-up as follows:—The mill ran 29 days, crushing 2,850 tons, yielding 107 ounces smelted gold, concentrates produced, 52 tons.

The M.M. steamer *Sydney*, which met with such an unpleasant experience on her passage from Saigon to Hongkong, breaking a shaft-bearing has had her damages made good and left for Shanghai on Sunday last. The *Sydney* was to have left for that port the Sunday previous, but for some reason did not do so. She arrived in Hongkong on the 13th ult., remaining till the 5th inst., a long and costly detention, though in any case she would have remained the usual two weeks at Shanghai.

At about half-past seven on Wednesday night a fire was discovered to have broken out in the office of Mr. W. Danby, architect, Duddell Street. Fortunately a number of soldiers and sailors happened to be in the immediate vicinity, and they at once set to work pouring buckets of water on the flames. The Fire Brigade also appeared and the fire was extinguished before much damage was done. The flat below is occupied by Mr. Bohm, late of the Windsor Hotel.

On Tuesday the members of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps received with surprise and regret the news of the death of Gunner E. W. F. Hatherley, of the No. 1 section of the Field Battery. He was only admitted to the Hospital on Monday afternoon suffering from blood-poisoning and he died at about half-past five on the following morning. The remains were interred in the afternoon at Happy Valley, the funeral being attended by the Acting Commandant (Major Morris, of the Royal Welch Fusiliers), the Adjutant (Captain Bland, R.A.), and officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the corps. The firing party was composed of the members of the same sub-division as the deceased. The band of the Royal Welch Fusiliers attended.

From the *Lusitano* we translate the following:—"One day last week two lorcha laden with coal were attacked by pirates near Malowchow. The pirates, having murdered all the crew, stole all that they could carry away and left in their boats. A China girl, who had succeeded in hiding herself while the pirates were on board, seeing that they had left and that the crew were dead, let off one of the cannon that were on board and killed several of the pirates. The surviving pirates returned on board, discovered the girl in her hiding place, and disfigured her by mutilation." Such is the tale as given by our contemporary. It only wants a different ending to make a thrilling romance. By all the laws of fiction the pirate chief ought to have married the brave girl and become a reformed character.

A Chinaman named Li Ben, aged 47, a native of Kwangtung, a passenger by the *Idzumi Maru*, which arrived at Kobe from Yokohama on the 30th ult., suddenly fell down on board on the 1st inst. and expired. His body was afterwards examined by the ship's doctor and the doctor in the Quarantine Office, who declared, the *Kobe Chronicle* says, that death was due to exhaustion on account of the want of opium, which the deceased was in habit of smoking. We wonder what the late Dr. Ayres would have said to this opinion. Opium smokers admitted to Victoria Gaol have their supply at once cut off, but none of them die of exhaustion on that account.

Some three months ago we published particulars of a new 1,500 ton steamer being built in Japan to the order of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha for the Hongkong-Tamsui line. We now learn that the same Company has given an order to the Kawasaki Shipbuilding Yard for another boat, to be completed in December, 1900, for the same trade. The vessel is to be built under the Japanese Shipbuilding Encouragement Act and to have the highest class at Lloyd's. The following are particulars of the specification:—Length 250 ft., beam 34 ft., depth 22 ft., gross tonnage 1,500, net tonnage 890, speed 13 knots; material steel, indicated horse-power 1,600, passenger accommodation 12 first class berths and 400 steerage, electric light throughout, triple-expansion engine, cabins and deck to be fitted with teak planking. The vessel is designed to be in every way suitable for the trade in which she is to be engaged.

The cases of communicable disease reported last week were one case of plague (fatal), one case of enteric fever, and one case of smallpox (fatal).

The Japanese ships in port were decorated in honour on 3rd November of the Mikado's birthday. Decorations were also displayed by the Japanese stores.

Shortly after midnight on Tuesday three armed men entered a house at the village of Un Chau, just outside Yaumati, and stole money and clothing to the value of \$20.

The N. D. L. steamer *Hohenzollern*, which arrived on Monday from Japan, reports that on the 3rd November she spoke the British barque *Nanaimo*, in lat. 30 deg. 14 min. and long 126 deg. 3 min., steering W.N.W. and bound for Shanghai. Her foremast had been totally lost, spars being rigged up in its stead, and the maintopmast and mizzenmast were broken. The ship had only three sails, mainsail, foresail, and spanker. She required no assistance.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At Macao on the 31st ultimo a woman was burnt to death. It is supposed she was lighting a cigar with a match, when a spark fell on her clothing and ignited it. She was horribly burnt and died in a few hours.

The *N. C. Daily News* of 30th October says:—H.M. river gunboat *Suip* steamed outside of Woosung on Saturday and underwent her several trials in a most satisfactory manner. She returned to her moorings the same day. Her commander, Lieut. A. H. Oldham, is due here on the 3rd proximo, when she will proceed up river.

There is something particularly touching says the *N. C. Daily News*, in the death of an old resident just as he was making preparations to go home. On Saturday morning, 28th October, it was learnt to everybody's sorrow that Mr. Charles Overbeck had died suddenly of heart disease the previous night, at eight o'clock. He had not been in very good health lately, but he was able to be about. It is over thirty-three years since Mr. Overbeck came to China to join his brother Mr. Heinrich Overbeck, who left China many years ago. Mr. Charles was very much liked and respected. He was twice married and leaves a widow with whom the most deep and sincere sympathy is felt. As a mark of respect to the deceased, the concert that was to have taken place at the Club Concordia on Saturday night was abandoned. The funeral took place on Sunday morning at the Old Cemetery (Pahsinjao), and was conducted by Pastor Hackmann. There was a large gathering, the German colony being very fully represented, and the chief mourners being Dr. Knappe, Messrs. Nolting, Rodewald, Meuser, Voelkel, Buschmann, Borner, Grun, Kemp, and Zacher. Herr von Witzleben attended the ceremony as representing H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

SHANGHAI, 4th November.—(From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular):—Black Tea.—A small business has been done at about previous rates. The demand for low grade Teas appears to be satisfied. Some of the parcels on offer are barely fit for human food.

Settlements during the fortnight:—

Ningchow..... 1,459 4-chest, at Tls. 19/25.80

Oonan 43 " " 17 1/2

1,912

Stock, 4,057 half-chests, against 4,248 half-chests at same time last year.

Green Tea.—Pingsueys. Settlements have been on a reduced scale and prices look a little easier, but the drop in quality is almost as great as the decline in price. It is doubtful if the total supplies will reach 130,000 half-chests. Country Teas.—There is very little change to report in these descriptions; the demand has extended to all qualities and Teamen are difficult to deal with as they refuse all offers which are not fully up to their ideas of value. A large proportion of the settlements are intended for shipment to Great Britain. Supplies are drawing to a close, and from present outlook the market promises to remain firm for the balance of the season. Small shipments of Local packed Tea have been made on native account. Hyson.—A moderate business is reported in finest Moyune

and Tienkai at from Tls. 28 and 30 a picul, but buying has been by no means general. Native Teamen at the close are asking rather firmer prices. The unsold stock is estimated at about 25,000 half-chests. Foong Mees and Sow Mees have met with fair enquiry.

Settlements during the fortnight are:—

	1-chests.	at Tls.
Pingsuey	6,918	21.00 a 26.00
Moyune	5,410	21.00 a 26.50
Tienkai	6,721	21.75 a 32.00
Fychow	847	29.00
Local Packed	161	s/o.

19,597 1/2-chests

Total Settlements since the opening of the season:—

	1899 x 1900.	Stock.
	1-chests.	1-chests.
Pingsuey	107,632	7,223
Moyune	58,883	
Tienkai	54,847	12,888
Fychow	15,275	
Local packed	17,812	741
Total	253,949	20,852

1898 x 1899.

	Settlements.	Stock.
	1-chests.	1-chests.
Pingsuey	35,767	15,988
Moyune	59,180	
Tienkai	53,859	38,348
Fychow	13,814	
Local packed	13,781	2,684
Total	176,391	56,970

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	9,514,030	10,608,322
Amoy	321,077	524,811
Foochow	13,095,083	11,403,500
Canton	4,042,645	3,770,406
Total	270,028,835	126,811,589

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	1,222,849	1,132,577
Amoy	9,723,480	7,549,648
Foochow	5,630,617	5,876,832
Total	16,576,946	14,559,677

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	25,419,867	22,676,900

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	23,002,245	21,572,42
Kobe	12,961,640	12,166,816
Total	35,963,885	33,739,238

SILK.

CANTON, 28th October, 1899. — Re-reels. — Supplies having almost completely ceased, dealers are unwilling to sell ahead. Owing to the eagerness of the buyers to operate, prices have advanced rapidly and our quotations are purely nominal. Tsatlees. — No settlements are reported. Filatures. — Have been in good demand, stocks being almost nil and most of the Filatures being engaged for 4-6 weeks, there is very little offering and prices have advanced rapidly about \$50 per picul. Short-reels. — The market has been cleared of the few desirable lots existing. All grades and sizes have been in good demand, but most of the Filatures being insufficiently supplied with cocoons, prefer to make find sizes. Waste. — Prices continued to advance, a few purchases of Steam Waste Extra have been made at \$120 and \$125 and dealers ask now \$135 per picul.

SHANGHAI, 4th November. — (From Messrs. A. E. Rurkill & Sons' Circular). — The Home markets are firm, Blue Elephants are quoted at 12/9 in London, whilst Gold Kilings are at Fcs. 32 in Lyons. Raw Silk. — Business has been on a much smaller scale this week, but the market is very

strong. It is reported that Chinese speculators have paid Tls. 545 for Gold Kilings. Total settlements this week are some 400/500 bales. Yellow Silk. — Market strong, and about 200 bales have changed hands. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, October 28th to November 8th, are: 650 bales White, 419 bales Yellow and 34 bales Wild Silks. Hand Filatures and Re-reels. — The demand still continues, but there is very little to be had, settlements this week are for the Continent and amount to about 200 bales. Steam Filatures. — Are still in good request, but settlements only amount to about 100 bales. We are informed that our quotation last week for Sin Chong Filature 9/11 den. 1, 2 and 3, should have been Tls. 985 average instead of Tls. 920. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 2,769 bales to America, 2,399 bales to the Continent, 43 bales to London, and 6 bales to Japan. Wild Silk. — We do not hear of any business. Waste Silk. — The demand still continues for Gum Waste, and we have to record a further advance; business is only on a very small scale, only some 75 piculs of White Coarse Gum having been settled on the basis of Tls. 180 for No. 1s, and Tls. 120 for 80 per cent. I and 20 per cent. II. Shantung Pongees. — 2,500/3,000 pieces have been settled:—

19 in. X 19 yds. to 23/24 c.....	at Tls. 4.00.
25 " X 19 " " 23 " " " " "	8.70.
18 " X 18 1/2 " " 22 " " " " "	2.50/2.90.

Quotations in Taels per picul—Average Exchange for the week 4 m/s. 2/9 1/2 and Fcs. 8.45 1/2. Freight Tls. 7.25 per cwt:—

	Tls.
	per picul.
Tsatlees.—	
Buffalo 8	610
Kiu Kee Kiling	575
Yellow Elephant	568 1/2
Gold Kiling	535
Choy Kiling	505
Blue Phoenix	532 1/2
Singli Dragon	532 1/2
Double	500
Siching Quongfoong	525
" Choyfoong	485
Stork Cheangling	525
Yaconlay Sieling	518 1/2
Three Pagoda	505
Hanchow.—	
Lanping	490
Taysam.—	
Green Kahing Gold Goose 1	535
" " 2	505
" Almond Flower 1	475
" " 2	440
Taysam.—	
White Kahing Gold Lily Flower 2	525
" " 3	505
Yellow Silk.—	
Mienchow 1	385
Meeyang 1	345
Fooyung 1	325
" 2	290
Wongchow Extra	292 1/2
" 1	270
Szechuen 1	245
Steam Filatures.—	
Keecheong, 13/15 Den., No. 1	960
Den Lun, 9/11 " " 2	930
Steamboat, 9/11 " " 1	935
Hand Filatures.—	
Pegasus, Croisee Ex. 1 & 2	770
Cabbage (not Croisee) 2, 3 & 4	700
Gold Gun " 2 & 3	705
Double Cook " 2	710
Gold Kiling " 8	710

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1899-1900	1898-9
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	49,910	32,926
Canton	16,788	15,515
Yokohama	180,35	9,389
Total	79,742	57,830

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1899-1900	1898-9
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	6,718	3,035
Canton	5,333	5,949
Yokohama	15,497	9,198
Total	27,548	18,172

CAMPOR.

HONGKONG, 10th November. — Prices are rather firmer. Quotations for Formosa are \$73.00 to \$73.10 sales 400 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 10th November. — The downward tendency continues and the market closes weak. Quotations are:

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$8.62 to \$8.65	cl.
do. " 2, White...	7.85 to 7.90	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	5.70 to 5.75	"
do. " 2, Brown...	5.55 to 5.60	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	8.51 to 8.58	"
do. " 1, White...	7.75 to 7.80	"

Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	5.55 to 5.60	pel.
do. " 2, Brown...	5.45 to 5.50	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.45 to 12.50	"
Shekloong "	11.40 to 11.50	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per American ship, *Josephus*, sailed on the 31st October. From Hongkong for New York:—10,036 rolls matting, 5,384 cases fans, 2,551 1/2-chests tea, 938 packages firecrackers, 50 cases and 750 bales cassia, 247 bales rattancore, 100 casks soy, 61 bales strawbraids, 60 cases strawcuffs, and 11 packages rattan furniture.

Per American ship, *Manuel Laguno*, sailed on the 1st November. From Hongkong for New York:—10,221 rolls matting, 3,818 cases fans, 3,043 1/2-chests tea, 1,314 bales rattancore, 1,250 packages firecrackers, 200 boxes Saigon cassia, and 20 bales split bamboo.

Per steamer *Oanfa*, sailed on the 2nd Nov. For London:—1,311 boxes tea (27,531 lbs. Sc. Capor), 1,500 cases preserves, 600 boxes ginger, 500 rolls matting, 434 casks soy, 20 cases essential oil, 1 case earthenware. For London and/or Glasgow:—100 casks ginger. For Antwerp:—221 bales split bamboos. For Marseilles:—59 bales human hair. For Hamburg:—602 bales feathers.

Per P & O steamer *Java*, sailed on the 3rd November. For Manchester:—300 bales waste silk. For London:—532 boxes and 666 1/2-chests tea from Amoy, 19 cases cigars from Manila, 1,899 boxes tea (39,879 lbs. congru), 6,023 boxes tea 126,483 lbs. Sc. caper, 20 cases bristles, 33 cases blackwoodware, 164 rolls mats and matting, 35 bales feathers, 15 cases Chinaware, 2 cases curios, 9 packages private effects, and 15 packages sundries.

Per steamer *Tonkin* sailed on the 4th Nov. For Marseilles:—292 bales raw silk, 10 cases silks, 764 packages tea, 1 case feathers, 50 cases staranised, 2 cases curios, 3 packages books, and 16 packages feathers. For Lyons:—585 bales raw silk. For Milan:—20 bales raw silk. For London:—1 case silks.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 10th November. — Bengal. — There has been a further fall in the rates. The market has ruled rather dull. Quotations close, New Patna \$900, New Benares \$872 1/2.

Malwa. — Prices have advanced during the past week, although business has not been up to the average. Latest figures are as follows:—

New \$880 with all'ce. of — to 1 1/2 cattie.
Old \$890 " " " — to 2 1/2 " "
Persian. — Business has been very slack, but prices are unaltered. Only drug has none in stock, while Paper-wrapped closes \$650 to \$820 according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as follows:—
New Patna 667 chests. || New Benares | 303 " |
| Malwa | 681 " |
| Persian | 844 " |

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1899.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Nov. 4	920	—	890	—	880	890
Nov. 5	920	—	890	—	880	890
Nov. 6	915	—	885	—	880	890
Nov. 7	915	—	885	—	880	890
Nov. 8	910	—	885	—	880	890
Nov. 9	905	—	880	—	880	890
Nov. 10	900	—	872 1/2	—	880	890

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 10th November. — High rates checking business. Stock, about 600 bales.

Bombay 19.00 to 20.00 | picul. || Kurrachee | — to — | " |
Bengal (New), Rangoon, }	20.00 to 22.00	"
and Dacca	— to —	"
Shanghai and Japanese, ...	24.00 to 25.00	"
Tungchow and Ningpo	24.00 to 25.00	"
Ma ras (Best)	— to —	"
Sales: 150 bales Bengal (Rangoon, new), Dacca.		

RICE.

HONGKONG, 10th November.—The crops are not so deficient as was expected and prices are consequently declining. Quotations are:—

Suigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.60 to 2.65
" Round, Good quality	2.95 to 3.00
" Long	3.30 to 3.35
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	3.05 to 3.10
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	3.85 to 3.40
" White	3.75 to 3.80
" Fine Cargo.....	4.05 to 4.10

COALS.

HONGKONG, 10th November.—Sales 5,000 tons Japanese, private terms, and 1,200 tons Cardiff Coal ex Godown at \$23. Quotations are:—

Cardiff.....	\$21.00 to \$22 ex ship, nominal
Australian.....	11.00 to — ex ship, steady
Milki Lump }	8.50 to 9.50 nominal
and Small }	
Moji Lump ...	6.25 to 8.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double }	12.00 to — ex godown
screened	
Hongay Lump	8.50 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust...	5.50 to —
Briquettes	10.50 to — ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

SHANGHAI 4th October.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report Piece Goods. The usual Autumn Race holidays that have intervened since we wrote our last Report have really been on this occasion quite a merciful relief to those engaged in this trade. Many took advantage of them as an excuse to close their books for the time being, though as it turns out there was not much necessity for it as the demand is still very limited. The recovery in Exchange has, however, given the dealers some encouragement to make enquiries for hard cargo in the hopes of picking up bargains, but as a rule holders do not care to sell. It was remarked this morning that more dealers had been seen about to-day than for weeks past, and yet very discouraging reports are coming in from the North concerning the unfavourable weather in those Provinces, dispelling all hope of the much needed rain this year, the ground, meanwhile, already parched, getting unworkable by the severe cold that has now set in, and preventing the sowing of the early Spring crops. Business with Tientsin is in consequence at an utter standstill, and Newchwang is liable to close almost at any time now. Nor is the state of things better up the River or with Ningpo, from all sides come complaints, complicated in some parts by decidedly rebellious tendencies, which the hard times in prospect this coming winter are bound to stir up. One of the usual Auctions was dropped this week in consequence of the holidays, which may account for the rather firmer tone shown at the one that did take place, more particularly in some classes of Cotton goods. Woollens on the whole were unsatisfactory, but clearances have been very good of late. Yarns of all descriptions are still strongly held and the business passing is very small. In fact the few sales reported from first hands show rather easier prices. Native Cotton is unchanged, but slightly easier, rates have been offered from India.

METALS 6th November (From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report)—There has been very little business done during the week owing to the Autumn Races, but what has been completed shows a tendency on the part of the dealers to approach home rates more nearly. In Metals a few transactions have been closed, as quoted below. In connection with these it will be useful to compare the rates with the latest home quotations, viz Goffins at 195s. and Steel Plate Cuttings 118s. for these pieces and 108s. for mixed lots. The following has been done:—200 tons Steel Plate Cuttings, test pieces at 112s. 6d., c. i. f.; 200 tons Round Iron at 123s., c. i. f.; 100 tons Goffin Nailrods at 190s., c. i. f.; 100 tons London Horse Shoes at 104s., 100 tons Balu Hoops at 109s., c. i. f.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 10th November.

IN LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight ...	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight ...	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.45
Credits, at 4 months' sight ...	2.50

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	198½
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	47½
Credits, 60 days' sight	48½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	144
Bank, on demand	144½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	144
Bank, on demand	144½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	5 % pm.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	2½ % pm.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	½ % pm.
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SOVERNIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate ... 10.28½

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine per ton ... 53.80

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 10th November.—The market continues quiet with rates (except in Banks, Docks, and Hotels) inclined to weakness.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—With a further rise in the London rate to £61.10 and a small local demand the rate went up to 345, at which shares changed hands after small sales at 342 and 343. Market closes firm at 346 per cent. premium. Nationals are still enquired for at quotation, but no sales are reported.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have changed hands at \$59 and Unions at \$42. Cantons remain on offer at \$136. Straits and the Northern Insurances without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's continue on offer at \$330 and Chinas at \$86 with no business reported.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao's have been placed at \$29, Indos at \$79, and a small lot of Douglasses at \$47½. China Mutuals and China Manilas unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars remain dead, with shares procurable at probably something under quoted rates. Luzons have been placed at quotation.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled steady with a small business at quotation. Charbonnages have changed hands at \$260, \$285, and finally at \$300, closing with further buyers at the last rate. Queens have been placed at 47½ cents and remain on offer at that rate. Jebebus have been dealt in to a small extent at \$14½ and \$14½. Oliver's at \$9½ and \$7 (for A's and B's respectively) with fair sales. Raubs continue steady to strong at quotation.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have changed hands during the week at 520 per cent. prem., but close firmer with buyers at 525. Kowloon Wharves continue quiet with sales and sellers at \$88. Wanchais unchanged. New Amoy Docks have found buyers at \$19 and more could be placed at the rate.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled steady at \$110 with small sales, but close with sellers. Kowloon Lands unchanged and without business. Hotels have risen considerably, an unsatisfied demand sending the rate up to \$122 with buyers. West Points and Humphreys unchanged and without business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Cottons, no business to report. The rates for Northern Mills are taken from the last Shanghai circulars. Green Islands have ruled quiet with shares on offer at \$28½ and no business. Watsons have continued dull with sellers at \$16.25 and no sales. The management has declared a dividend (interim) of 50 cents payable on the 28th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows.—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[55-74] buyers
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	346 p. ct. prem.,—
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$28. buyers
Foun. Shares...	£8	\$24. buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$14. buyers
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$9½. sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$140. buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 62½ sellers.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
Laou Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 75.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 350
Yahloong.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 57½
Hongkong	\$100	\$60.
Dairy Farm.....	\$8	\$5.25.
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$42½. buyers
Green Island Cement...	\$0	\$28½. sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$25.
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$127.
Hongkong Electric {	\$10	\$11, s'lers ex n. iss.
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$00	\$147½. buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$122. buyers
Hongkong Ice.....	\$25	\$17½. sal s
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$0	\$7. buyers
Hongkong Rope.....	\$50	\$190.
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$525 p. ct. p'em.—
Insurance—		[781½] buyers
Canton.....	\$50	\$135.
China Fire	\$20	\$86.
China Traders'	\$25	\$59. sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$380. s'lers
North-China	£25	Tls. 190.
Straits	\$20	\$3. buyers
Union	\$50	\$242. sales & sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$121. sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$110. sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$10. sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$90	\$28. sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$30. sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$47. sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$300. buyers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$5	\$1.50. sellers
Do. Preference ...	\$1	62½ cts. sale
Jebebu	\$5	\$14½. buyers
Queen's Mines Ltd....	25c	47½ cts. sellers
Oliver's Mines, A....	\$5	\$9½. buyers
Do. B....	\$4½	\$7. sellers
Punjom	\$6	\$9.
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.50. sellers
Raubs	15s. 10d	\$6½. sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$19. sales & buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$90. sellers
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£9½. sellers
China Ordinary	£10	£7. buyers
Do.	£5	£3. 15s. buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47½. sales
H. Canton and M....	\$15	\$9. sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$79½. buyers
Star Ferry	\$7½	\$19. buyers
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$5	\$5. sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3.
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2.
Do.	\$10	\$18. nominal
Wanchai Warehouse ...	\$37½	\$45. buyers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$16.25. sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 6th November.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report)—The Race Holidays have interfered with business, which has chiefly been confined to Shanghai-Langkai shares. Pulp and paper Co. has been floated, and we add it to our list. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares were placed for March at 340 per cent. premium early in the week, and some have since been purchased from Hongkong at 343 per cent. premium cash. Marine Insurance.—China Traders Insurance shares were placed at \$60½. Fire Insurance.—Hongkong's were placed at \$320 Shipping.—Business neglected. Docks, Wharves & Godowns.—S. C. Farham & Co. shares changed hands at Tls. 212½. Shanghai Engineering Preference shares were sold at Tls. 106, and Ordinary shares are wanted. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were placed at Tls. 83½, and Humphrey's Estate and Finance shares at \$10. Industrial.—Shanghai Gas shares were sold at Tls. 207½. International Cotton Mill shares are weak, with sellers. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 60. A large business was done in Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares at Tls. 250/300 cash, 260/290 for November.

270/310 for December, and 280/320 for March. A. S. Watson & Co. shares were sold to Hongkong at \$16.10, and locally at \$18.

Quotations are:—

BANKS.

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$543.25.
Bank of China and Japan, Ltd.—£1.0.0.
Do. ordinary.—£5.5.0.

National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$25.00.

COTTON MILLS.

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 68.00.
Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—\$60.00.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 70.00.
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 77.00.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 350.00.

DOCKS, WHARVES, &C.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 195.00.
Hongkong & K'loon Wharf Company.—\$88.00.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. Ltd.—\$765.00.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 212.00.
Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 96.00.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 247.50.

INSURANCES.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$136.00.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$87.00.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$60.50.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$20.00.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 190.00.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$6.50.—Nominal.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—242.
Yangtze Insurance Asscn., Ltd.—\$125.00.

LANDS.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$105.00.
Humphreys Estate & Finance Co., Ltd.—\$10.00.
Shanghai Land Invest. Co. (fully paid).—Tls. 83.50.

MINING.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$9.50.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd. pref. shares.—\$1.50.
Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$64.50.
Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 4.00.

SHIPPING.

China-Mutual preference.—Tls. 72.00.
Do. ordinary, £ paid.—Tls. 30.00.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 170.00.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$48.00.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—29.50.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 60.00.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 185.00.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 235.00.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 84.00.

SUGAR.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$130.00.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$48.00.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 65.50.

MISCELLANEOUS.

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 60.00.
Central Stores, Ltd.—\$11.00.
China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 30.00.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$36.00.
Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$55.00.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 35.00.
Shanghai Gas Co.—\$207.50.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 80.00.
Shanghai Ice, Cold Storage, & Refrigeration Co., Ltd.—Tls. 36.00.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 300.
Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 25.00.
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 60.00.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 265.00.
Watson Co., A. S., Limited.—\$16.00.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Chusan (str.), Malacca (str.), Hector (str.), Glenshiel (str.), Shanghai (str.), Machaon (str.).
For BREMEN.—Kong Albert (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—Bingo Maru (str.), Sydney (str.), Suevia (str.).
For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Bamberg (str.), Suevia (str.), Konigsberg (str.), Siberia (str.), Ambria (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—Algoa (str.), America Maru (str.), Gaelic (str.).
For SAN DIEGO VIA SHANGHAI.—Lady Joicey (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.).
For VICTORIA, B.C. VIA SHANGHAI.—City of London (str.).
For VICTORIA, B. C. VIA SEATTLE.—Idzumi Maru (str.).
For PORTLAND, O.—Monmouthshire (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Moyuna (str.), St. Jerome (str.), Mary L. Cushing (str.).
For AUSTRALIA.—Kusuga Maru (str.), Guthrie (str.), Changsha (str.).
For SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—Kumsang

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 10th November.—Our freight market still remains firm. Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents is offered for medium sized carriers; to Java (one port north coast) 30 cents. From Java (two ports

north coast) to Hongkong, 43 cents per picul has been paid, and more tonnage is wanted at 40 cents per picul. Newchwang to Canton, the last steamer for this season was chartered at 40 cents per picul. The port will probably be closed about the 20th inst. Bangkok to Hongkong, tonnage is wanted at 2 and 33 cents per picul. Japan coal freights.—Moji to Hongkong, \$2.00 per ton can be obtained; to Singapore, \$3.25 per ton. Hence to Kobe or Yokohama, 23 cents is offered for small boats. The American ships *St. Mark* and *Adolph Oberg* fixed. Hence to New York missed cancelling date, but have since been rechartered at a lower rate. The *State of Maine* and *Mary L. Cushing* have been closed in same direction.

There is one vessel disengaged in port registering 1,474 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Mary L. Cushing—American ship 1,575 tons, hence to New York, private terms.

State of Maine—American ship, 1,467 tons, hence to New York, private terms.

Adolph Oberg—American ship, 1,376 tons, hence to New York, private terms.

Prosper—Norwegian steamer, 78 tons, Newchwang to Canton, \$0.00 in full.

Michael Jensen—German steamer, 710 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 45 cents per picul.

Nanyang—German 1,665 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 4 cents per picul.

Beilawers—British steamer, 1,484 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$3.25 per ton.

Recina—Australian steamer, 1,600 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$3.25 per ton.

Norman Isles—Norwegian steamer, 2,180 tons, K'chinotzu to Singapore, \$3.25 per ton.

Taifu—German steamer, 1,665 tons, Hongay to Canton, \$2.30 per ton.

Benlarig—British steamer, 1,453 tons, hence to Yokohama, \$1,000 in full.

Quarta—German steamer, 1,145 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 26 cents and 31 cents per picul.

Germania—German steamer, 1,775 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 27 and 32 cents per picul.

Loongang—British steamer, 1,093 tons, five trip, Bangkok to Hongkong, 28 and 33 cents per picul.

Mennuir—British steamer, 1,877 tons, two ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 35 cents per picul.

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, two ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 43 cents per picul.

Shantung—British steamer, 1,875 tons, two ports P. I. pines to Yokohama, 45 cents per picul.

Kongbeng—British steamer, 862 tons, monthly, 1 month, at \$1,250 per month.

Sullberg—German steamer, 782 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$4,700 per month.

Svalow—German steamer, 724 tons, monthly, 3 months, at \$1,510 per month.

Germania—German steamer, 1,775 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$9,000 per month.

Sullberg—German steamer, 782 tons, monthly, 8 months, \$1,350 per month.

Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, monthly, 8 months, \$3,000 per month.

Progress—German steamer, 799 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$3,000 per month.

Taifu—German steamer, 1,665 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$7,250 per month.

Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$5,750 per month.

Quarta—German steamer, 1,145 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$8,000 per month.

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, monthly, 12 months, private terms.

Decima—German steamer, 1,145 tons, monthly, 12 months, private terms.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

November—

ARRIVALS.

4. Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
4. Formosa, British str., from Swatow.
4. Hoihao, French str., from Haiphong.
5. Benledi, British str., from Foochow.
5. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
5. Keongwai, British str., from Bangkok.
5. Yarra, French str., from Marseilles.
5. Japan, British str., from London.
5. Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
5. Poseidon, Austrian str., from Kobe.
5. Redpole, British gunboat, from Labuan.
6. Deutschland, German cr., from Amoy.
6. Hertha, German cruiser, from Amoy.
6. Amigo, German str., from Newchwang.
6. Hohenzollern, German str., from Japan.
6. Taiwan, British str., from Chinkiang.
6. Tritos, German str., from Bangkok.
6. Triumph, German str., from Haiphong.
6. Kong Beng, British str., from Moji.

6. Wuhu, British str., from Wuhu.
6. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
6. Esmeralda, British str., from Hongay.
6. Konigsberg, German str., from Hamburg.
7. Kamsang, British str., for Singapore.
7. Diamante, British str., from Manila.
7. Benlarig, British str., from Moji.
7. Nanyang, German str., from Manila.
7. Bayern, German str., from Shanghai.
7. St. Mack, Amr. ship, from Manila.
8. Cheang H. Kian, Brit. str., from Singapore.
8. Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
8. Rosetta, British str., from Yokohama.
8. Piemonte, Italian cruiser, from Chefoo.
8. Carlo Alberto, Italian cr., from S'pore.
8. Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'chinotzu.
8. Maidzuru Maru, Japanese str., from Amoy.
8. Fame, Brit. torp. bt. destroyer, from S'hai.
8. Whiting, Brit. torp. bt. dest., from S'hai.
9. Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
9. Haitan, French str., from Hoihow.
9. Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
9. America Maru, Jap. str., from S. Francisco.
9. Australian, British str., from Melbourne.
9. Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
9. Inaba Maru, Jap. str., from Rotterdam.
9. Undaunted, British str., from Philadelphia.
9. Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.
9. Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
9. West York, British bark, from Albany.
9. Legazpi, Spanish str., from Manila.
9. P. C. C. Klao, British str., from Bangkok.
10. Amigo, German str., from Canton.
10. Leongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
10. Clyde, British str., from Bombay.
10. Pronto, Norw. str., from Newchwang.
10. Hong Leong, British str., from Straits.
10. Picciola, German str., from Saigon.
10. Belmont, British str., from Manila.

November— DEPARTURES.

4. Coptic, British str., for San Francisco.
4. Tonkin, French str., for Europe.
4. Chinkiang, British str., for Shanghai.
4. Taicheong, German str., for Amoy.
4. Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Misumi.
4. Dagmar, German str., for Chinkiang.
4. Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
4. Venus, Amr. str., for Manila.
4. Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
4. Seong Leong, British str., for Amoy.
4. Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
4. Anapa, British str., for Saigon.
4. Chwshan, British str., for Singapore.
5. Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
5. Indravelli, British str., for Shanghai.
5. Chowtai, British str., for Bangkok.
5. Kweiyang, British str., for Amoy.
5. Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
5. Sydney, French str., for Shanghai.
5. Yarra, French str., for Shanghai.
6. Bonaventure, H.B.M. cruiser, for a cruise.
6. Oregon, U.S. cruiser, for Manila.
6. Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
7. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
7. Taiwan, British str., for Canton.
7. Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
7. Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
7. Wuhu, British str., for Canton.
7. Amigo, German str., for Canton.
7. Yueusang, British str., for Manila.
7. Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
7. Silo, German bark, for Vancouver.
8. Bayern, German str., for Europe.
8. Quarta, German str., for Saigon.
8. Benledi, British str., for London.
8. Triumph, German str., for Haiphong.
8. Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
8. Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
8. Tamsui Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
8. China, German str., for Saigon.
8. Zweena, British str., for Singapore.
9. Taksang, British str., for Swatow.
9. Mausang, British str., for Amoy.
9. Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
9. Cheang H. Kian, British str., for Amoy.
9. Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
10. Australian, British str., for Shanghai.
10. Nanyang, German str., for Newchwang.
10. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
10. Bonaventure, British cr., for Shanghai.
10. Sullberg, German str., for Newchwang.
10. Keongwai, British str., for Bangkok.
10. Diamante, British str., for Manila.
10. Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.

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